

The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 6005

晚九月正年元統宣

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1909.

五拜禮

號九月二英港香

\$36 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$1,000,000
RESERVE FUND \$1,000,000
Sterling
\$1,000,000 at 2% = \$15,000,000
Silver \$14,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$1,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
R. Shellim, Esq.—Chairman.
Hon. Mr. W. J. Grosson—Deputy Chairman.
E. G. Barrett, Esq.
G. Friesland, Esq.
G. S. Gubbay, Esq.
W. H. Helm, Esq.
G. R. Lehmann, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—J. R. M. SMITH,
MANAGER
Shanghai—W. ADAMS ORAM,
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.
per Annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2% per cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3% per cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4% per cent. per Annum.

J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 3rd February, 1909. [20]

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL PAID UP GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEK \$7,322,222
RESERVE FUND GOLD \$1,250,000
=ABOUT MEK \$7,322,222

HEAD OFFICE: 60 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

LONDON OFFICE: THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS:
BANK OF ENGLAND.
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF
ENGLAND, LIMITED.
THE CAPITAL AND COUNTIES BANK, LTD.

BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE
WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account at the rate of 2% per annum on daily balances and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:—

For 12 months, 4% per cent. per annum.
6 " 4 " " "
3 " 3 " " "

No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.
W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1908. [18]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,200,000
RESERVE FUND £1,525,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS £1,200,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per
annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.
" " " " "

JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 13th May, 1908. [22]

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDELS-MAATSCHAPPIJ.
(Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.
PAID-UP CAPITAL FL 45,000,000 (£1,750,000).
RESERVE FUND FL 5,752,834.84
(about £470,407).

Head Office—AMSTERDAM.

Head Agency—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Surabaya, Charbon, Tegar, Pecalongan, Pusocoress, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kola-Raja (Acheen), Bandjernasie; Correspondents at Macassar, Bombay, Colombo, Madras, Pondicherry, Calcutta, Bangkok, Salgot, Malibgo, Hanoi, Amoy, Yokohama, Kobe, Melbourne, Sydney, New York, San Francisco, etc.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S
BANK, LIMITED.

THE Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues letters of credit on its Branches and correspondents in the East, on the Continent in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and transacts banking business of every description.

INTEREST ALLOWED.—

On Current Accounts 2% per annum on daily balances.

Fixed Deposits 12 months, 4% per annum.
Do. 6 do. 2% do.
Do. 3 do. 1% do.

J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 16th July 1908. [19]

Banks.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL PAID-UP Yen 24,000,000
RESERVE FUND Yen 15,000,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agents:

TOKIO, CHEFOO,
KOBE, TIENSIN,
OSAKA, PEKIN,
NAGASAKI, NEWchwANG,
LONDON, DALN,
LYONS, PORT ARTHUR,
NEW YORK, ANTONG,
SAN FRANCISCO, LIOYANG,
HONOLULU, MUKDEN,
BOMBAY, TIE-LING,
SHANGHAI, CHANG-CHUN,
HANKOW.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.
per Annum on the Daily Balance.

On Fixed Deposit:—

For 12 months 5% p.a.

" 6 " 4% "

" 3 " 3% "

TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 12th September, 1908. [17]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

The Business of the above Bank is conducted
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits allowed at 3% per
cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG
AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED
DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [21]

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP—Sh. Taels 7,500,00

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES: Berlin, Calcutta, Hamburg, Hankow,
Kobe, Peking, Singapore, Tientsin,
Tsinanfu, Tsintau, Yokohama

FOUNDED BY THE FOLLOWING BANKS AND
BANKERS:

Koenigliche Seehandlung (Preussische
Staatsbank) Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft
Deutsche Bank Berlin.
S. Bleichröder Berlin.
Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft
Bank für Handel und Industrie
Robert Wartha & Co.
Mendelsohn & Co.

M. A. von Rothschild & Sohn Frankfurt
Jacob S. H. Stern a.m.
Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.
Snl. Oppenheimer Jr. & Co., Koen.
Bayrische Hypotheken und Wechselbank,
München.

LONDON BANKERS:
M. A. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK,
LIMITED.

DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY,
DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account.
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be
learned on application. Every description of
Banking and Exchange business transacted.

A. KORHN,
Manager.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [23]

THE SAVOY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL FL 45,000,000 (£1,750,000).

RESERVE FUND FL 5,752,834.84

(about £470,407).

Head Office—AMSTERDAM.

Head Agency—BATAVIA.

BRANCHES—Singapore, Penang, Shanghai, Rangoon, Samarang, Surabaya, Charbon, Tegar, Pecalongan, Pusocoress, Tjilatjap, Padang, Medan (Deli), Palembang, Kola-Raja (Acheen), Bandjernasie;

Correspondents at Macassar, Bombay, Colombo,

Madras, Pondicherry, Calcutta, Bangkok,

Salgot, Malibgo, Hanoi, Amoy,

Yokohama, Kobe, Melbourne, Sydney,

New York, San Francisco, etc.

LONDON BANKERS:
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BANK, LIMITED.

THE Bank buys and sells and receives for

collection Bills of Exchange, issues

letters of credit on its Branches and cor-

respondents in the East, on the Conti-

nent in Great Britain, America, and Australia, and

transacts banking business of every description.

INTEREST ALLOWED.—

On Current Accounts 2% per annum on daily

balances.

Fixed Deposits 12 months, 4% per annum.

Do. 6 do. 2% do.

Do. 3 do. 1% do.

J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 16th July 1908. [18]

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	NOTES.
SHANGHAI	DELTA, Capt. W. H. B. Snow, ...	Daylight, 20th Feb.	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c, via usual Ports	BRITANNIA, Capt. S. Batchelor, ...	Noon, 20th Feb.	No Special Agent.
LONDON and ANTWERP VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, MELBOURNE, COLOMBO, PORT SAID, and MARSEILLES	MALTA, Capt. W. F. Crossley, ...	About 21st Feb.	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, MOJI, & YOKOHAMA	PALMA, Capt. G. W. Cockman, R.N.R.	About 1st Mar.	Freight only.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 18th February, 1909. [14]

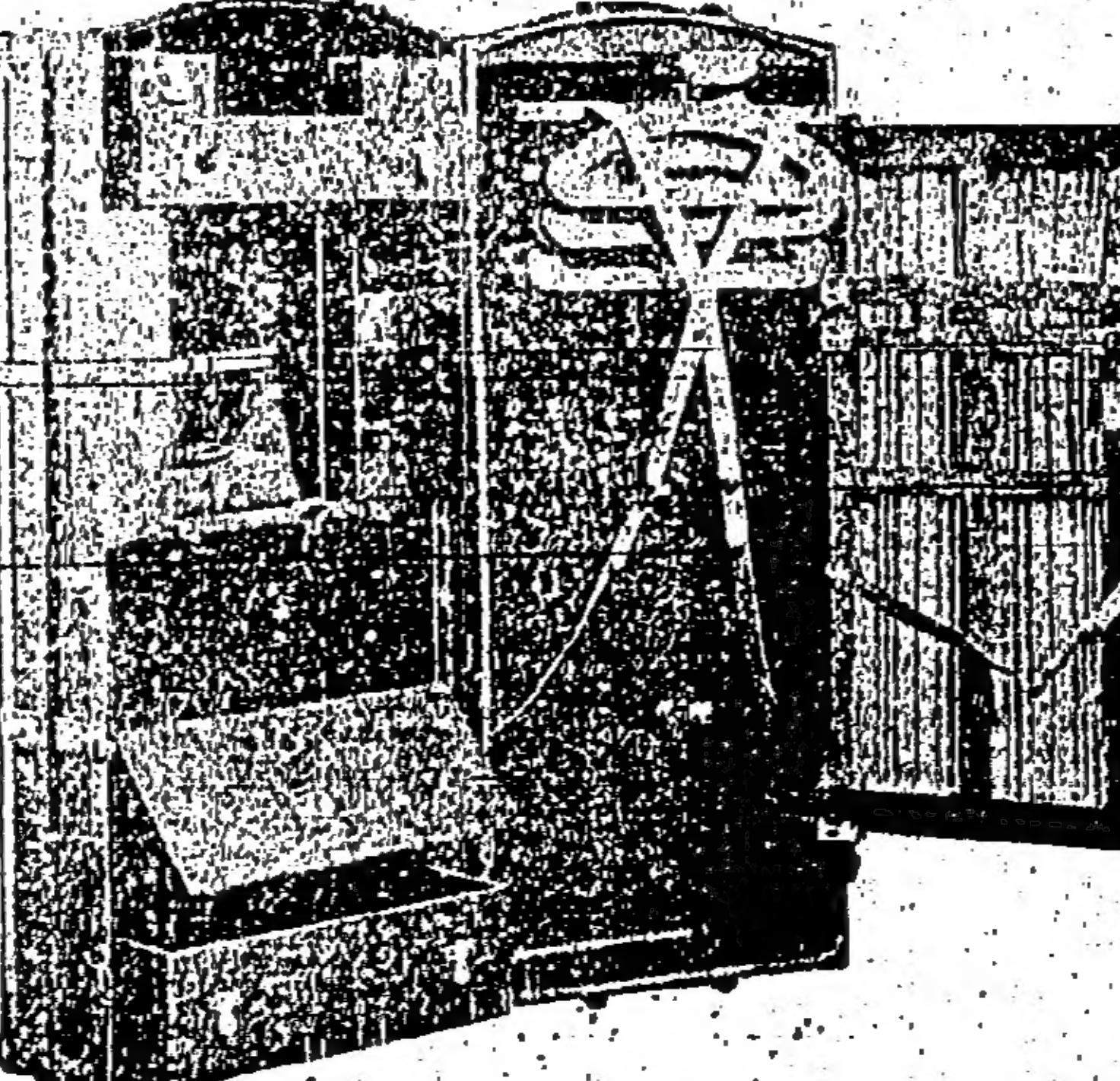
Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

NEW STOCK OF

TRAVELLING REQUISITES.

WARDROBE TRUNKS.



LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. [20]

V. O. S.

AND

EXTRA SPECIAL FINEST LIQUEUR

ARE THE BEST WHISKIES OBTAINABLE.

Telephone No. 75.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.

15, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1909. [21]

Hotels.

HOTEL PLEASANTON,

No. 17, Water Street, Yokohama.

FIRST CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL—Newly Opened and Furnished Suites or Single Rooms, Private Baths, Modern Sanitary Fittings, Electric Light, Up-to-date Appointments, Renowned Cuisine, Dark Room for Photographers. Charges Moderate.

HENRY LUTZ,

MANAGER.

Hongkong, 15th July, 1909. [15]

Shipping Steamers

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO

AND

WEST R

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP AND HAMBURG	"PRINZ REGENT LUFTPOLD"	WEDNESDAY, 24th February, Noon.
MANILA, YAP, NEW GUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE	"MANILA"	THURSDAY, 25th February, 5 P.M.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA	"KLEIST"	ABOUT THURSDAY, 25th February.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO"	BEGINNING OF MARCH.

For further particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1909.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

NO. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

NO. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 30.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 876, 506, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Scotts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1909.

NIGERIA FIGHTING.

ATTACK ON THE ANGLO-GERMAN

BORDER COMMISSION.

The Colonial Office has received from Lieut.-Col. Whitlock, the British representative on the Anglo-German Commission which is endeavouring to agree on a boundary between the German Cameroun and Southern Nigeria, news of what appears to have been a sharp encounter between the demarcation party and the natives, resulting in about 25 casualties. The telegram does not go much into detail, and, unless further serious trouble is encountered, the Government would not expect in the ordinary way to get anything like full particulars pending the receipt of a mailed dispatch, which would take about two days to reach London from the coast, to say nothing of the down-country journey to Lagos.

As, however, the cabled report makes mention of the dangerous wounding of the German Commissioner, Lieut. Stephane, and of casualties to two non-commissioned officers of the German escort, it is presumed that the brunt of the trouble fell upon the German party, and that as British casualties are not mentioned, none occurred. If the casualties recorded are joint casualties some mention of the British losses in the dispatch would have been looked for.

A SURPRISE ATTACK.

The news of trouble came largely as a surprise, but the precaution had been taken of sending a strong escort with the Commissioners. With the Massai people, who are located near the boundary line, trouble might have possibly arisen and the Dry Season Patrol, which is practically an exploring party, might have encountered opposition but the Government dispatch expressly declares that neither the Massai nor the patrol were involved in the affair which affected, only the Boundary Commission.

Between Northern Nigeria and the Kamerun the boundary has been fixed, while that between Southern Nigeria and the Kamerun has been roughly agreed on as a straight line. The object of the Joint Commission was to make such adjustments of this line as local geographical features or the distribution of tribes might suggest.

COUNTRY PRACTICALLY UNKNOWN.

Two-thirds of this line had been adjusted without any sign of trouble arising, but the country is practically unknown to Europeans south and west of Jola. The party had apparently got over about 90 miles of the last stage of their work, and were about midway in what proved to be an inhospitable tract when they were attacked.

The fighting took place during Christmas week, and the casualties all told were five killed and 19 wounded. The tribesmen have been repelled and have retired to the hills, while the delimitation party has been reinforced.

Col. Whitlock left England last summer to carry out, in conjunction with the German Commission, a second year's delimitation work on the boundary between Nigeria and the Kamerun, adds Reuter. Proceeding via the Niger and the Benue, the British Commissioners met their German colleagues near Takor, at which point the new season's work was to begin.

In a letter received by Reuter dated from that place on 19 Nov. Col. Whitlock said that the Commissioners were hard at work, but they had been much hampered owing to heavy floods. The telegram now to hand shows that the Commissioners have progressed with their work (for Sankwala, whence the telegram was dispatched, is 50 miles further along the boundary).

No anxiety is felt regarding the position of the Commissioners, as the force with them is quite sufficient to secure their safety, and in any case troops can easily be hurried up from the South if Col. Whitlock informs the Lieutenant-Governor of Southern Nigeria that this is necessary.

Besides Col. Whitlock's troops there were at Sankwala's Lieut. von Stephan, the German Commissioner, two German non-commissioned officers, 40 troops, and a Maxim gun.

WEATHER FORECAST AND STORM-WARNINGS ISSUED FROM THE HONGKONG OBSERVATORY.

METEOROLOGICAL SIGNALS.

Meteorological signals are hoisted on the mast in front of the Water Police Station at Tsim Sha Tsui for the information of masters of vessels leaving the port. They do not necessarily imply that bad weather is expected here.

Signal

1. A CONE point upwards indicates a Typhoon to the North of the Colony.

2. A CONE point upwards and 1/4 U.M. below indicates a Typhoon to the North-East of the Colony.

3. A DRUM indicates a Typhoon to the East of the Colony.

4. A CONE point downwards and DRUM below indicates a Typhoon to the South-East of the Colony.

5. A CONE point downwards indicates a Typhoon to the South of the Colony.

6. A CONE point downwards and BALL below indicates a Typhoon to the South-West of the Colony.

7. A BALL indicates a Typhoon to the West of the Colony.

8. A CONE point upwards and BALL below indicates a Typhoon to the North-West of the Colony.

Red Signals indicate that the centre is believed to be more than 300 miles away from the Colony.

Black Signals indicate that the centre is believed to be less than 300 miles away from the Colony.

The above signals will, as heretofore, be hoisted only when typhoons exist in such positions or are moving in such directions that information regarding them is considered to be of importance to the Colony or to shipping leaving the harbour.

These signals are repeated at the Harbour Office, H.M.S. "Tamar," Green Island Signal Mast, and the Flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godwin Company at Kowloon.

URGENT SIGNAL.

In addition to the above, when it is expected that the wind may increase to full typhoon force at any moment, the following Urgent Signal will be made at the Water Police Station, and repeated at the Harbour Office.

THREE EXPLOSIVE BOMBS, AT INTERVALS OF TEN SECONDS.

A Black Cross will be hoisted at the same time, superior to the other shapes.

NIGHT SIGNALS.

The following Night Signals will be exhibited from the Flagstaff on the roof of the Water Police Station at Kowloon, the Harbour Office, Flagstaff, and H.M.S. "Tamar."

I. Three Lights Vertical, Green Green Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated more than 300 miles from the Colony.

II. Three Lights Vertical, Green Red Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated less than 300 miles from the Colony.

III. Three Lights Vertical, Red Green Red, indicates that the wind may be expected to increase to full typhoon force at any moment.

No. III. Signal will be accompanied by the Explosive Bombs, as above, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published by night.

These Night Signals will be substituted the Day Signals at sunset, and will, when necessary, be altered during the night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNING.

For the benefit of Native Craft and passing Ocean Vessels, a Cone will be exhibited at each of the following stations during the time that any of the above Day Signals are hoisted in the Harbour.

Gap Rock, Aberdeen, Waglan, Sau Ki Wan, Stanley, Tai Kung, Cape Collinson, Tai Po.

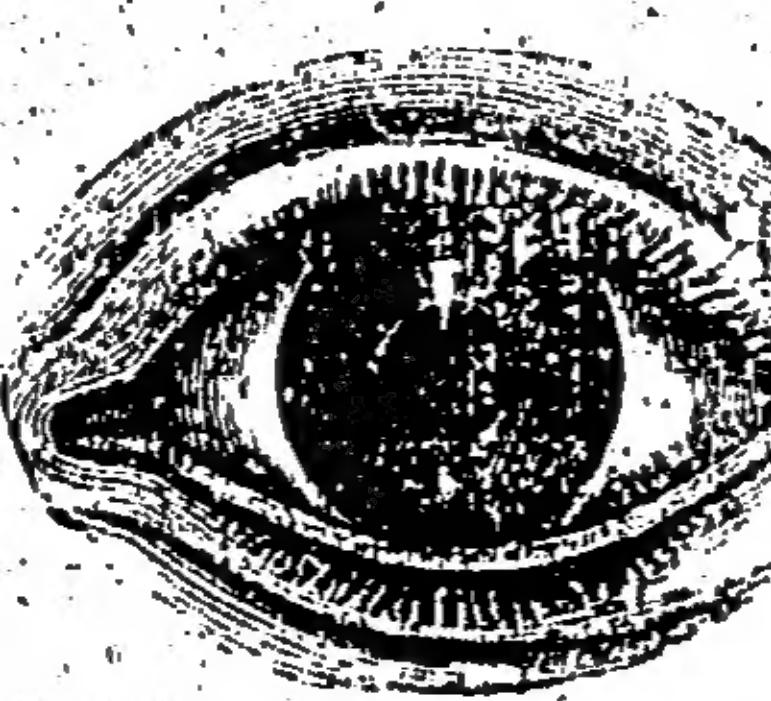
This will indicate that there is a depression somewhere in the China Sea, and that a Storm Warning is hoisted in the Harbour.

Further details can always be given to Ocean Vessels, on demand, by signal, from the light houses.

T. G. Price, Director, 26th Jan., 1909.

EYES

RIGHT!



N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,

CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.

Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight" — free.

LONDON, 1, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. CALCUTTA, 52, Bentinck Street. SHANGHAI, 566, Nanking Road.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1909.

PHILATELIC NOVELTY

suitable for PRESENTS.

BAGS OF USED POSTAGE STAMPS.

Containing:

All Asiatic Stamps.	All Chinese Stamps.
4,000 for 58.00	4,000 for 34.50
3,000 " 7.00	3,000 " 3.50
2,000 " 5.00	2,000 " 2.50
700 " 2.00	1,000 " 1.50
300 " 1.00	500 " 1.00

Also Stamps in Jackets and Sets, and other Philatelic Requisites at prices to suit everybody.

VIEW POSTCARDS, ALBUMS, HINGES, RAPHAEL TUCK'S TOY BOOKS AND RELIEF SCRAPS, MANILA CIGARS AND CIGARETTES, &c., &c.

Inspection invited.

GRACA & CO., No. 27, Des Vaux Road.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

7.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

8.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

9.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

9.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

11.30 p.m. to 12.00 noon ... Every 15 minutes.

12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

Intimation.

Powell's
28, Queen's
Road.

GENTLEMEN'S
OUTFITTING
ESTABLISHMENT.

New
Neckwear.

Silk Knitted,
Crêpe de
Chine,
Foulard, etc.,
in
Exclusive Designs.

Fownes's
Gloves,
in
Reindeer,
Suede,
Chamois,
and
Dogskin.

Tweed Hats,
Latest Shapes.

POWELL'S
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1909.

Public Companies.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, TOMORROW, the 20th day of February, 1909, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1908.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [157]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 9th instant, to SATURDAY, the 20th instant, (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 5th February, 1909. [147]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, Queen's Buildings, New Plyas, on MONDAY, the 22nd February, 1909, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1908.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th to the 22nd February, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
THOS. I. ROSE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 27th January, 1909. [123]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING of the above-mentioned Company will be held at its Registered Office, Nos. 9 to 17 Pedder Street, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 26th day of February, 1909, at 12.30 P.M. for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following Resolutions:

1. "That the capital of the Company be increased to \$1,000,000 by the creation of 8,000 additional shares of \$50 each.

"Ranking for dividend and in all other respects pari passu with the existing shares in the Company."

2. "That the said 8,000 additional shares be offered in the first instance at par to all members of the Company registered as shareholders on the First day of March, 1909 in the proportion of two new shares for every three original shares held by them upon the footing that fifty per cent of the full amount of each new share taken up shall be paid to the Company on acceptance of the offer and that such offer be made by notice specifying the number of shares to which the member is entitled and limiting a time within which the offer if not accepted by payment will be deemed to be declined and that the directors be empowered to dispose of the shares not taken in response to such offer as they consider expedient in the interests of the Company."

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. MOONEY,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 13th February, 1909. [181]

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

THE 25TH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 2, George's Building, Connaught Road, Victoria, on SATURDAY, 27th February, 1909, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Manager for the year ending 31st December, 1908, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 24th February, to SATURDAY, the 27th February, both days inclusive.

Witness: And earn very fair money.

Witness accepted a definition of this kind of excess as "convivial drunkenness," except in the quarrelsome cases. In these cases the family would resent the notion of positioning to have them sent away.

Chairman: Because they are perfectly useful citizens during the week and are wage-earners?—Yes, many of them.

Chairman: But they go on a weekly bout?—Yes.

Public opinion looks leniently on the Saturday drinking bout; is that it?—Yes, I am afraid a great many of them take it as their weekly pleasure.

Mr. Bramdon: Is that peculiar to Birmingham?—No, I am afraid not.

Mr. Rose: Is the number diminishing among the artisan class—the week-end drinking man in your experience?—I think it would be hard to prove it; but I am under the impression that it is diminishing.

DRUNKEN MEN IN EVERY STREET.

Chairman: But you say it is very considerable?—It is.

In all the working-class districts of Birmingham, do you find that?—It certainly is so in my district. You can hardly go down a street on a Saturday night without seeing two or three drunken men.

And women?—And women, too? but my experience is that the women are more apt to drink all the week-round than the men, because the men are at work.

Mr. E. Baggallay (the Metropolitan magistrate) gave evidence dealing with a kindred question—that of drinking on bank holidays.

In his experience a good many hard-working men went on the drink four times a year. On the morning after bank-holidays lots of perfectly good, hard-working men, and otherwise perfectly respectable women, were brought up:

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One very interesting point in the evidence is that which deals with the famous "Drunkards' Black List."

Superintendent Mulvaney told the chairman (that the list with photographs and particulars

Sad Stories of the Drunken Habit.

REVELATIONS MADE AT OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

Many public and dismal stories of drunkenness are told in the minutes of evidence accompanying the important blue-book on drunken reform a summary of which we print.

Dr. H. W. Poole, of Birmingham, told the committee of a certain man who was an official in a good and responsible position, and a man of very good family. "He is eccentric almost, but not quite, to the verge of insanity. After a good many warnings he was forced to leave his employment, as he could not be relied upon to do his work, and would not keep his books properly. He gets fits of violence occasionally, frightens his family very much."

I believe the man is a highly intellectual man, really, a fine musician; and I believe he would have remained a decent citizen if his case could have been dealt with earlier and he had been dealt with.

Another case described by the same witness is that of "the wife of a very respectable man, a works manager. The children, who are growing up now, have been driven from home because they cannot stand their mother's habits. I remember this woman as a most intelligent and intellectual woman, but now . . . she is simply a disgrace to the neighbourhood, wandering about with filthy, dirty, ragged clothes, boots down at heel, and hair unkempt, an absolute disgrace to any neighbourhood."

DRINK AND DRUGS.

Dr. G. P. Bate, the medical officer of health for the borough of Balsall-green, tells of a medical man who was repeatedly brought to him or his son by the police. "He used to carry a laudanum bottle in his pocket, and get a drap, and have his bottle filled at the same time."

Lady Henry Somerset tells how she spent the whole night with a woman of 28, who was suffering from delirium tremens.

Another witness, Dr. J. Ford Anderson, tells of the case of a young man about 35, suffering from dipsomania, "an only son, with spells of sobriety lasting for twelve or eighteen months, when he is a paragon of the domestic virtues and a good son, and never touches anything stronger than milk."

"Then he suddenly becomes restless, stays out at night, and soon becomes a curse to his aged father. He pawnes everything he can turn into money, even to his artificial teeth, and borrows from the friends of his family, often with threats; and he stays away for days, and returns a wreck. He fits last for a few months, and he finally calms down, and resumes his quiet life."

"His father is a clergyman, and he is afraid to invoke the law in any way, and you cannot get the sanction of the patient himself to go to a home. So what can one do?" He goes about with low company, and gets money from people and drinks with it, and is never sober while the fit lasts. That man ought to be in some way restrained from the beginning. He is as strong as a lion. . . . What can one do in a case like that, a most difficult case? I have had several of a similar character."

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Hongkong, 27th January, 1909. [123]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING of the above-mentioned Company will be held at its Registered Office, Nos. 9 to 17 Pedder Street, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 26th day of February, 1909, at 12.30 P.M. for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following Resolutions:

1. "That the capital of the Company be increased to \$1,000,000 by the creation of 8,000 additional shares of \$50 each.

"Ranking for dividend and in all other

respects pari passu with the existing shares in the Company."

2. "That the said 8,000 additional shares be offered in the first instance at par to all

members of the Company registered as

shareholders on the First day of March,

1909 in the proportion of two new shares

for every three original shares held by

them upon the footing that fifty per

cent of the full amount of each new

share taken up shall be paid to the

Company on acceptance of the offer and

that such offer be made by notice

specifying the number of shares to which

the member is entitled and limiting a

time within which the offer if not ac-

cepted by payment will be deemed to be

declined and that the directors be em-

powered to dispose of the shares not

taken in response to such offer as they

consider expedient in the interests of the

Company."

By Order of the Board of Directors,

C. MOONEY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1909. [181]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 2, George's Building, Connaught Road, Victoria, on SATURDAY, 27th February, 1909, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Manager for the year ending 31st December, 1908, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 24th February, to SATURDAY, the 27th February, both days inclusive.

Witness: And earn very fair money.

Witness accepted a definition of this kind of excess as "convivial drunkenness," except in the quarrelsome cases. In these cases the family would resent the notion of positioning to have them sent away.

Chairman: Because they are perfectly useful citizens during the week and are wage-earners?—Yes, many of them.

Chairman: But they go on a weekly bout?—Yes.

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Superintendent Mulvaney told the chairman (that the list with photographs and particulars

was quite useless; he had never found it to be of any use.

Chairman:—You have never known an inebriate to be identified?—Witness: No, not by a publican—not by a holder of a license—and I do not quite see how it is possible for them to do it; the photo is taken when the person is convicted, and he may go to another district on his release.

You look upon the system as more or less impracticable in London owing to the migratory condition of the people?—Yes, and the large area covered—for instance, in the case of a publican here in Westminster with the description of some inebriate from Whitechapel, the possibility would be very remote of that person being recognised.

Dr. Brautwaite: I would like to put the question very closely to you: are you not of opinion that the Black List arrangements as now carried out are quite worthless?—Most emphatically so.

So far as London is concerned?—Certainly.

Another case described by the same witness is that of "the wife of a very respectable man, a works manager. The children, who are growing up now, have been driven from home because they cannot stand their mother's habits. I remember this woman as a most intelligent and intellectual woman, but now . . . she is simply a disgrace to the neighbourhood, wandering about with filthy, dirty, ragged clothes, boots down at heel, and hair unkempt, an absolute disgrace to any neighbourhood."

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Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

TOBACCONISTS & CIGAR
MERCHANTS.

TOBACCO.

John Cotton's Nos. 1 & 2;
Carven Mixture; Ardath
"Special Mixture; Black Cat;
Garrick Smoking Mixture;
Phillips' Finest Smoking Mix-
ture, "Non Fur" Tobaco-
co, and other well-known
brands.

CIGARETTES.

Garrick Cigarettes; State Ex-
press; Quo Vadis; Craven
Mixture; Clarence Extra
Virginian; Knight Ban-
neret; Turkish; Martin's
"Non-throat"; Three Cas-
tles (Magnums).

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS

AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1909.

purchases from foreign and colonial owners during the same period amounted to 51,551 tons (46,997 steam, 4,554 sail). The sailing tonnage of the United Kingdom would thus appear to have decreased by about 7,540 tons, and the steam tonnage to have increased by 26,000 tons. The net increase of United Kingdom tonnage at the end of 1908 is therefore about 16,600 tons. For the previous five years the estimated net increase were as follows:—1903, 405,000 tons; 1904, 429,000 tons; 1905, 469,000 tons; 1906, 764,000 tons (the highest figures on record); 1907, 426,800 tons. Glasgow heads the list of shipbuilding centres with 233,830 tons launched, followed by Newcastle, Belfast, Greenock and Sunderland. As regards the movement of the shipbuilding industry during the course of 1908, Lloyd's Register Returns show that, at the opening of the year, irrespective of war ships, 948,800 tons (36,378 steam, 2,452 sail), were being built in the United Kingdom. The returns for the March quarter indicated a decrease of over 100,000 tons in the work in hand, and those for September a further decrease of 114,000 tons. A slight increase has since taken place and at the present time the tonnage under construction amounts to 764,520 tons, which, however, is only 54 per cent. of the total for June, 1906. The total warship tonnage under construction in the country is now 219,711 tons displacement as compared with 268,717 at the end of 1907. With regard to the colonies and foreign countries, the figures under that heading are also considerably below those of previous years, the total number of vessels launched being 882 of 90,361 tons, a decrease of 266,000 tons as compared with the previous year. The leading place is taken by the United States, while Germany, France, Japan, Holland and Norway follow in the order named. Taking the United States first as an evidence of the fact that the ship-builders of Great Britain were not the only sufferers by the depression, it appears that the total mercantile tonnage reported from that country (304,543 tons), is 170,000 tons smaller than that of the previous year; the decrease in the tonnage built for service on the Great Lakes being no less than 111,000 tons. With reference to Germany, the returns show a decrease of over 67,000 tons in the shipbuilding output as compared with last year. During the years 1900-1904 the average yearly output was about 204,000 tons. In 1905, 255,000 tons were launched, and in 1906, 318,000 tons. Since then there has been a considerable decrease, the present figures (1907, 300) being 10,000 tons less than two years ago. It should be stated, however, that these figures do not include vessels launched on the upper rivers, the total of which amounts to over 18,000 tons. The largest steamers launched in the country during 1908, were the *George Washington*, of about 25,000 tons (this being also the largest steamer launched in the world during the year), and the *Cincinnati*, of about 20,000 tons. Five other steamers of between 6,000 and 10,000 tons were also launched, and two of between 15,000 and 20,000 tons. In France, however, there is an increase in the tonnage launched of 22,000, due to the building of six steamers of 6,000 tons and upwards. The figures for Japan (59,725 tons) show a slight decrease as compared with those of 1907. They include four steamers of about 8,600 tons each. At the present time there are under construction nine steel steamers of over 72,000 tons, the largest being one of 13,500 tons, to be fitted with turbines. The returns under review show that the general increase which had taken place during 1907 in the output of most of the other countries has not been maintained in 1908. With the exception of Austria-Hungary, where an increase of about 15,000 tons has taken place, there has been a considerable reduction in the total tonnage launched. It may be noted that of the tonnage launched during 1908, the United Kingdom has acquired over 30 per cent. Of the total merchant tonnage output of the world during 1908, 50 per cent. was launched in the United Kingdom; but, if only seagoing steel steamers of 3,000 tons gross and upwards be taken into account (thus excluding vessels trading on the North American Lakes), out of the total of 170 such steamers, of 1,050,741 tons launched in the world, over 63 per cent. of the tonnage has been launched in the United Kingdom. It will be apparent then that Britain still leads in the shipbuilding trade even if dull days have been experienced. The returns are not nearly so gloomy and dispiriting as might have been expected, and the prospects are set fair for better times this year.
THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the forthcoming ordinary meeting to be held at the company's offices on Thursday, the 4th March, at 12 o'clock noon, reads:—

The directors have now the pleasure to submit their annual report and statement of the company's accounts made up to 31st December last.

The balance at credit of working account as per last report was \$374,432.78

Add premia etc. received \$1,748.05

Deduct claims paid in 1908 \$136,184.41

Deduct return premia, &c. &c. 49,170.74

Balance of profit \$18,725.58

It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows:

Dividend of \$6 and bonus of \$2 per share on 30,000 shares \$160,000.00

To add to extra reserve fund, which will then stand at \$45,658.10 92,570.35

Bonus to office staff 6,155.33

..... \$18,725.68

1908.—The balance at credit of working account at the close of this year was \$375,341.77.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. A. G. Wood and A. Fuchs resigned their seats on leaving the Colony and Messrs. J. W. C. Boniface and C. Brodersen were appointed to fill the vacancies, and on the regrettable death of the latter, Mr. H. A. Sibley was asked to occupy the vacant seat. These appointments require the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. Shellim and Friesland retire by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe have audited the annexed accounts and offer themselves for re-election.

E. SHELLIM,
Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1st January to 31st December, 1908.

Dr.

To Charges Account:—

Fent, salaries, legal and surveyors' fees, taxes, stamp, stationery, &c. \$42,081.23

Directors' and Auditors' fees 7,400.00

To Commission Account:—

Agents' commissions 79,151.50

To Exchange Account:—

Difference in exchange 1,148.20

To Losses Account 1908:—

Claims after deduction of re-insurances 136,624.08

To Amount Written Off:—

Future account 59.02

To Balance 375,141.77

Cr.

By Premium Account:—

Premium after deduction of re-insurances 5481,557.93

By Interest Account:—

Amount at credit, including interest due on deposits and investments, &c. 160,412.01

By Transfer-Fee Account:—

Amount at credit 135.84

..... \$612,305.73

BALANCE-SHEET.

31st December, 1908.

Liabilities.

Capital Ac. \$1,400,000.00

Reserve Fund 1,000,000.00

Ex-Reserve Fund 438,668.10

Investment Fluctuation Account 32,399.00

Accounts Payable:—

Dividend for 1907 \$ 6,000.00

Losses outstanding and sundries 95,684.27

..... 256,684.27

Working Account, 19.8.—

Balance at credit 375,311.77

Assets.

Cash at Bankers \$75,311.28

Fixed Deposit at Banks:—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation \$148,819.82

Chartered Bank of I. A. & C. 30,000.00

Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd. 20,000.00

International Banking Corporation 75,000.00

Investments:—

Chinese Imp. Govt. E. Bonds \$60,335.15

Hongkong Club Debentures 27,700.00

Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, Debentures 50,000.00

Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., Debentures 49,872.40

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., Debentures 8,472.32

Shanghai Club Debentures 6,586.61

Shares in Public Companies 200,100.00

Loans on Mortgages:—

On properties in Hongkong \$1,467,00.00

On properties in Shapem, Canton 150,000.00

..... 1,617,900.00

Furniture Account:—

Office furniture, &c. 700.00

Accounts Receivable:—

Premia due from agencies, investments, &c. 133,300.65

..... 35,503,093.14

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

VALUABLE SERVICES REWARDED.

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Canton, 17th February.

At the request of Sir Chen Tung Liang Cheng, president of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chun has recommended Taotai Kwong, Engineer-in-Chief of the Railway, for the Civil Rank of the Second Class in token of valuable services rendered.

ADOPTION OF STANDARD WEIGHT.

In accordance with instructions received from Peking a Weight and Measurement Bureau will shortly be established in Canton with a view of bringing about a uniform standard of weight and measurement. The Taotai for the development of native industries, Chao Mong Tsang, has been nominated by the Viceroy to be Director of the Bureau.

LIKIN COLLECTION.

The collection of Likin due in Canton during the first and second ten days of this month as reported by the Likin officials amounted to 114,678,930 taels.

SALE OF DEAD PIGS FORBIDDEN.

The police have once more issued a proclamation, for the benefit of the general public, prohibiting the sale of dead pigs.

REBELLION QUALELL.

Taotai Kwok Jen Chao, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial troops, sent to Yinchow to suppress the recent rising there, arrived here last week. The Viceroy has commanded Taotai Kwok for his efforts in putting down the insurgents and ordered him to return to that prefecture for duty, lest the outlaws might rise again during his absence.

ACCIDENT AT TEA-HOUSE.

At a o'clock yesterday afternoon, near the Southern Gate, a tea-shop all of a sudden had one of its side walls cracked and the interior instantly collapsed. There were present at the time a number of people having a quiet sip at the soothing beverage. On receiving the shock they all hurried out and ran in different directions for safety, with the result that over ten of them were more or less injured in the panic.

MANUFACTURE OF PAPER.

Mr. Wei Chung Put arrived here on the 15th instant from Hupsh with instructions to study the system obtaining at the Canton Government Paper Factory so as to introduce the method in that province.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Superintendent of the Canton-Hankow Railway, has sent a telegram to the Viceroy, recommending that a resident official should be appointed to look after the interests of the railway in each of the three provinces on behalf of the Superintendent, and that Tai-tai Wong Ling-Yun, formerly Taotai in Yinchow, and recently reinstated, has been appointed to be Director-General in Canton. H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chun has accordingly notified the Canton-Hankow Railway Company of Taotai Wong's appointment.

THE TAI-SHA-TAU FIRE.

As a result of the disastrous fire at Tai-sha-tau on the 30th ultimo, the Viceroy has issued a proclamation prohibiting the boat population from resuming their former occupation on their craft, and also ordering them to remove farther ashore. It is now ascertained that at present there are altogether sixty-three of these boats in Canton harbour. They have been ordered to vacate the water in three days' time.

CANTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

A few months ago, the Canton Christian College received the handsome donation of \$10,000 from Mr. So-king-Kui, \$4,000 from Sir Chen Liang Cheng, and sums ranging from one hundred to several hundred dollars from several other persons towards the funds for its maintenance. On the 15th instant, Mr. Tam Lai Ting, a coal merchant of the On Hing Company, presented a sum of \$100 to the College for the use of the students. This sum has been named *Tai-nan*.

GOVERNMENT CEMENT FACTORY.

The Canton Government Cement Factory has solicited from the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, the Canton-Kowloon Railway Company and the Chinchow-Swato Railway Company and some others for orders to supply cement for their use.

ADMIRAL LI CHUN'S MOTOR-LAUNCH.

It is learnt that the motor-launch now in course of construction by W. S. Baily and Company of

MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

DINNER TO SIR ROBERT HART.

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce held a dinner of the members to meet Sir Robert Hart, Bart., C.M.G., at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, on 20th ult. The chairman was Mr. Francis Ashworth, President of the Chamber, who was assisted by a company of 260 members and their friends, including Sir F. F. Adam, C.I.E. (Treasures, Manchester Chamber of Commerce), Mr. H. R. Armitage, Mr. W. Ashworth, Mr. A. G. Angier, Mr. M. Barstow, Mr. R. N. Barclay, Mr. T. H. Barker (Secretary Liverpool Chamber), Mr. Chas. Behrens, Mr. Gustav Behrens, Mr. A. J. S. Biss (President Consular Association), Mr. W. P. Byles, M.P., Mr. J. K. Bythell (Chairman Manchester Ship Canal), Mr. Pelham Clinton, Mr. Wm. Crowther, Mr. J. Dodd, Mr. Wm. G. Crowther, Mr. Alfred Hopkins, K.C., &c. (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester), Mr. T. H. Jenkins (Mayor of Salford), Sir A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G. (President Liverpool Chamber), Mr. W. Joyson-Hicks, M.P., Mr. G. D. Kelley, M.P., Mr. S. L. Keymer, Mr. Ivan Levinstein, Mr. H. W. Macalister (President Manchester Cotton Association), Mr. C. W. Macara, Mr. C. T. Neaham, Mr. J. E. Newton (President Oldham Chamber), Dr. Niven (President Manchester Statistical Society), Prof. E. H. Parker, Mr. F. W. Peal (President of the Bankers' Institute), Mr. A. D. Provand, Mr. Alfred Ree, Mr. Alec Reiss, Mr. Arthur Reiss, Mr. H. J. Reiss, Mr. W. T. Stubbs (Vice-President Manchester Chamber of Commerce), Mr. S. I. Thompson, and Mr. F. Zimmer.

The usual loyal toasts having been honourably, the President said:—

Our thoughts to-night naturally centre around China, that vast country, exceeding in area every other country in the world under single government—excepting Russia, Siberia—and containing a population equal to that of the whole British Empire, India included. China has a civilisation of her own long before Europe had emerged from barbarism—but she was content with that form of civilisation during the centuries in which Europe was gradually advancing in her civilisation, and China was eventually left far behind. In course of time, as their industries expanded, the people of the West looked longingly towards that great, mysterious country in the Far East, trying to 'tap its wealth and to find markets for European products.' The effort to gain a firm footing for British commerce in China lasted for 65 years, dating from Earl Macartney's ill-fated mission in 1793. It is a grim story, associated with much bloodshed, and in some of its aspects not very creditable to us as a nation. However, in 1842 we got possession of Hongkong, which gave us a *foothold* in Southern China, and we obtained openings for trade at Shanghai and some other ports. But China continued to resist our intercourse, and it was not until the combined forces of England and France had occupied Canton, captured the Taku Forts in the North, and penetrated to Tientsin, in 1858, that the Chinese yielded, and granted freedom of trade by treaty. But more severe fighting was required before the treaty was ratified in 1863. This Tientsin Treaty has been termed the "Mogao Charter" of foreigners in China, and it has governed the relations between China and Western nations from that time to the present day. These remarks present a very cursory review of the course of events—rebuffs and reprisals, successes and failures—during the first 65 years of the 19th century, but they bring me to the point at which our distinguished guest, Sir Robert Hart, whom we are delighted to welcome here to-night upon the scene. In 1859, young Mr. Hart, as he then was, resigned the British Consular Service to join the Chinese Customs service, and in 1861 he received the important appointment of Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, with headquarters at Peking. It was a splendid appointment for so young a man, and proved a most fortunate one for the Chinese Government. Foreign merchants quickly realised the benefit of the new régime, and in the course of years, the Chinese Customs service gained a worldwide reputation for excellent management and reliability. A knighthood, later, a baronetcy, came to Sir Robert from his own grateful country, and other European nations showered honours upon him. Thirty years after his appointment, Sir Robert Hart has become the most trusted man of European birth in the Far East. In his capacity as Agent-General for the Chinese Government preserved the most confidential relations with him. The Customs receipts being mortgaged to meet China's foreign loans, European financiers came to look upon Sir Robert Hart almost as a personal security for these loans, which, after the China-Japan war, had reached £50,000,000 sterling. Sir Robert Hart's responsibilities constantly increased. Besides the control of the Customs and the foreign debt service, he successively undertook the management of the Chinese Postal Service, the lighthouse service, preventive service, and various minor matters. Of his invaluable aid as a diplomatist during those critical years following 1895, the Chinese officials are the best judges. Nearly every European nation was demanding special privileges, and hanging round the "sick man" to secure a bountiful share of his property, if, and when he collapsed. What a strain it was to be concerned in steering through the shoals of intrigue, and jealousy of those days, Sir Robert alone can appreciate. The value of China's overseas trade, imports and exports, in 1864—the earliest year in our records—was roundly HK. £100,000,000. In 1905, the summit year of her foreign trade, the total reached HK. £480,000,000, but that was an abnormal year of imports, as we have reason to know in Manchester, for it was our exclusive

supplies of cotton textiles that sent them up with a bound. British commerce still leads the way in China, and cotton piece-goods still form the largest item in her imports. But China only takes about 10 per cent. of the total yards we export, whereas India takes 38 to 30 per cent. The impediments to the free course of trade in the interior of China, still exist, notwithstanding treaty clauses designed to surmount them. Sir Robert Hart will give us his views regarding the future of China. That she has started on a new era of reform and development seems certain. Progress will be slow, and it may be interrupted by internal convulsions; but I believe, it will be continuous. The future of China is, and will long remain, the most interesting problem of world-politics. The possibilities are immense; but the difficulties are stupendous. We can only hope that the outcome will be a closer knitting together of international interests, the East with the West, and a nearer approach to the general brotherhood of mankind. Sir Robert Hart has lived half a century in China. His position there has been unique; probably it will never again fall to the lot of any Briton (I must not say Englishman, for Sir Robert is an Irishman by birth) to fill an exactly parallel position. He has been a splendid example of the type of our nationals who have maintained abroad that high reputation for honour, integrity, ability, and honesty of purpose on which we justly pride ourselves. In his presence I will not say more, but I will call on you, gentlemen, to cordially drink the health of Sir Robert Hart, hoping that he may long be spared to enjoy the rest and freedom which has so amply earned by those arduous services, for which we Lancashire people have very special reason to be grateful.

The toast was drunk with full honours, "For a jolly good fellow" being cordially sung.

SIR ROBERT HART.

Sir Robert Hart, who, on rising, was received with loud cheers and the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," said:—It is with the greatest pleasure that I have accepted the invitation of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce to come to this banquet. I am very much pleased with the cordial manner in which you have received me. The song you have sung and the cheers which you have indulged in take me back some 55 years, to—the year when I first went to China as a student interpreter. I would like to give expression to them. (Laughter and cheers.) I had work to do and did not words to speak. (Cheers.) Now that I have come before you I have been rather puzzled as to the manner in which I should address you, but before leaving London I hastily wrote down some words, and, if you will allow me, I will read them, because then I think you will have sense to listen to instead of nonsense. (Laughter and cheers.) I have much been written and published about China, and so much information is put before the public in daily and weekly newspapers, in periodical Customs statistics, and in annual consular reports, that it is difficult to decide where to begin and to such an audience. After speaking of the early history of China, Sir Robert said: Some three or four hundred years ago the Eastern element appeared in Chinese waters, and the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and British flags were seen over strange-looking ships at different places. Some 60 years ago the inevitable occurred, and, after a war in which the Chinese were defeated at all points, treaty intercourse was established, and five ports opened to British trade. Since that time a dozen or more States have made treaties with China, and ports are now multiplied tenfold. All such treaties have two special provisions—one is that the foreigner is to be governed in China by his own laws and his own officials, and the other is that whatever privileges are accorded to one country shall be given to all others. The first extra-territoriality was not objected to at the outset, and did not harm when foreigners were few, but the foreign element has gone on increasing, and the Chinese Government now feels that it has given up some rights it ought to have retained. Foreign Powers, however, cannot forego those acquired, rights till Chinese judicial procedure is so reformed as to satisfy Western and Christian ideas, and the time for such a change is still far off in the future. (Hear, hear.)

THE MOST FAVOURED NATION CLAUSE. The second treaty peculiarity is what is known as "The most favoured nation" clause, and its effect is to put all comers on the same footing. This is fair to all, makes work simpler, and, emphasising the cosmopolitan principle, makes preferential treatment impossible. (Cheers.) Trade has thus one tariff to observe and one procedure to follow, and it thus happens that success in business depends more on individual ability, energy, and enterprise than on Government support or official backing. Some firms have produced merchant princes, and others have either disappeared or barely paid their way.

The five ports of sixty years ago have now become almost fifty, and a transit system enables mercantile to send their foreign imports to and bring native produce for export from any and every place, no matter how distant, in the interior. Still, foreign trade, although always increasing, has never realised the hopes and expectations of the men who began it, and to this several causes have contributed. First of all, foreign trade was an exasperation, for, centuries before, China had its own trade to satisfy, both producers and consumers. New wants have developed slowly, and native customers have sufficed to take of the provincial surplus. Nevertheless, it has grown and will grow, and now that inland communication by railway and steamboat facilitates movement more and more daily, consumers of foreign goods will increase in numbers, and producers will be encouraged to provide more largely for foreign markets. Besides, the foreign merchant is now paying attention to the necessity for consulting the tastes of the natives, instead of simply expecting them to buy what he has to sell, he studies

their "live and let live" principle of daily life, not only keeps away the competition that kills, but keeps down the taxation which is harmful. For example, if an official is tempted by the supposed profit of any business to tax it, it is likely to prevail, the trade, simply closes their shops and the official speedily withdraws from the position taken up. Capitalists continue to keep prices up to a paying level, and in doing so recognises the power, the working man has to combine and rob capital of all power, and so take care to pay him a living wage, while he on his part knows he must not damage the action of capital by demanding wages that would cause its withdrawal and make it unprofitable. (Cheers.) As in other matters the truth lies between two extremes, and both principles have their uses; combination, however, in the stronger power, and against it competition may any day realise the truth of the "Earthen Pitcher" fable.

SUITING CHINESE TASTES.

Your Legation never loses sight of your interests, and your consuls at the ports are always on the alert to assist the merchant; but success in business depends on personal qualifications more than on official backing, and among the important points, to which I would recommend your attention are first of all to study the tastes and wants of the people you trade with. Some of the things you produce doubtless tempt them, but improvement is said to be called for in ascertaining and in providing what they really like as regards materials, sizes and colours. And, secondly, some knowledge of the local dialect is a valuable possession and a good way to provide for acquiring it is to let your youngsters go out with some knowledge of the Chinese now taught at various places in England. Dialects differ, and must be learned on the spot, but the written language is the same everywhere, and an introduction to a useful and practical part of it can be obtained at home. Thirdly, the Chinaman has his feelings like other men, and reciprocity is one of his good points. Friendly relations are everywhere profitable, and friendly demeanour is everywhere appreciated. (Cheers.)

CONCERNING THE FUTURE.

As regards the future, one may say China is changing in every quarter. Education of the Western kind is welcome; railroads are increasing their mileage; the telegraph is at work everywhere; steamers on the coast and on the inner waters are increasing in numbers; newspapers are being established at all important points; post-offices are transmitting mail matter all over the country. Peking can now be reached over Siberia in sixteen days from London; public offices, both domestic and international, are being handled in most up-to-date fashion. But in so large a country and with such an immense population progress, though real, must be slow, and changes, though great, can only be felt locally. With such a people—a country rich in undeveloped resources and a people possessed of every good quality—the future before the Empire cannot be other than great, and among the world Powers China one day, sooner or later, will take a front rank. (Cheers.)

The future will depend much on to-day, and it is to be hoped her foreign relations will go on improving, and that she will only have kindness and sympathy, to remember and neither wrongs to right nor grudges to pay off. (Cheers.) I have not attempted to trouble you with the statistics of a trade that covers so many articles and has so many ramifications; nor, indeed, am I able to carry such a mass of figures in my head. Yesterday I received from Mr. Tatlerall a copy of a circular containing statistics in which the particulars are gone into with as many details as could possibly be required here. But I trust I have lifted the curtain a little and given you a new perspective on the China you are interested in. (Cheers.) I hope these general remarks will not have wasted your time, but will create some additional receptivity where Anglo-Chinese relations are dealt with, whether commercial, political, or missionary. (Cheers.) Missionaries merit your fullest support, and the work of missionaries the highest commendation. They will further and not damage your real mercantile interests at all places, and I have nothing but good to say about them. (Cheers.) Having said what have written, I will only say that I have enjoyed this evening very much. I am sorry that I have not the honour of being personally acquainted with everyone present, I appreciate very highly the very kind manner in which you have received me, and I wish you great business centre every prosperity in the future and all the development that you desire. (Loud cheers.)

Several other toasts followed.—L. & G. Express.

POLICEMAN STUNED.

SCRIBBLE AT THE HAPPY VALLEY. Happy Valley was the scene of some disturbance yesterday afternoon, and it is to be wondered at that the peace-breakers made their debut in the Police Corps to-day? Su Sing was the first to answer the charge of disorderly behaviour. According to the information laid against him Su was returning to town via Morrison Gap, and when requested by an Indian policeman to keep clear of the vehicular traffic he refused. The result was that he was pushed to one side of the road. This Su resented, and, assisted by his chums, the policeman had a rather exciting time dodging stones alleged to have been hurled by them. Su was captured after a while; his friends managed to escape, however. He was discharged with a caution after evidence had been heard.

The second item to enliven the proceedings at the race-course was that between a Japanese eating-house owner and his cook, a man giving the name of Ponsonby. Both men were more or less under the influence of liquor, and they soon fell out over a most heated argument about nothing, perhaps. They were enjoying themselves, and the crowd too immensely, when a policeman appeared on the scene and the pair marched away. Very little is to be said after this, except that both defendants were ordered to pay a fine of \$1 each for their behaviour.

To-day's Advertisements.

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FLOWER SHOW.

IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

FRIDAY, 26th February.

Open 2 P.M. to 6 P.M., admission 5s. Mrs. May has kindly consented to distribute the Prizes at 5 P.M.

SATURDAY, 27th February.

Open 10.30 A.M. to 3 P.M., admission 50 cts.

3 P.M. to 6 P.M. 20 cts.

Children Half-price.

Ticket to be obtainable on the grounds.

By kind permission of Major Evans and Officers the Band of the 13th Rajputs will play on both days from 2.30 to 6 P.M.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [19]

AMERICAN AND ORIENTAL LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "NORMAN PRINCE,"

FROM NEW YORK.

ONE IRON SAFE by Milner, ONE SEMI-GRAND PIANO by Hawke and ONE TEN-NINETEEN POLES, &c., &c.

On View on Thursday, the 25th instant.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [19]

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1909.

TO-MORROW (OFF-DAY).

20th FEBRUARY.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION to the GRAND STAND and ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, LTD., or, at the Gate. Price 5s for the Meeting (excluding the Off-Day), or 3s per day. Tickets for the Off-Day, 1s.

No one admitted without a Ticket to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.

T. F. HOUGH,

Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th February, 1909. [15]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "MONTROSE,"

FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 24th February, at 2.30 P.M.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th February, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 28th February, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

ARNHOLD KARBERG & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 18th February, 1909. [192]

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "MONTROSE,"

FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th instant will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 19th March, or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 26th instant, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

BILLS OF LADING will be countersigned by

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [190]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has been favoured with

instructions from

HENRY HUMPHREYS, Esq.,

to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION.

on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY,

the 24th and 25th February, 1909, commencing

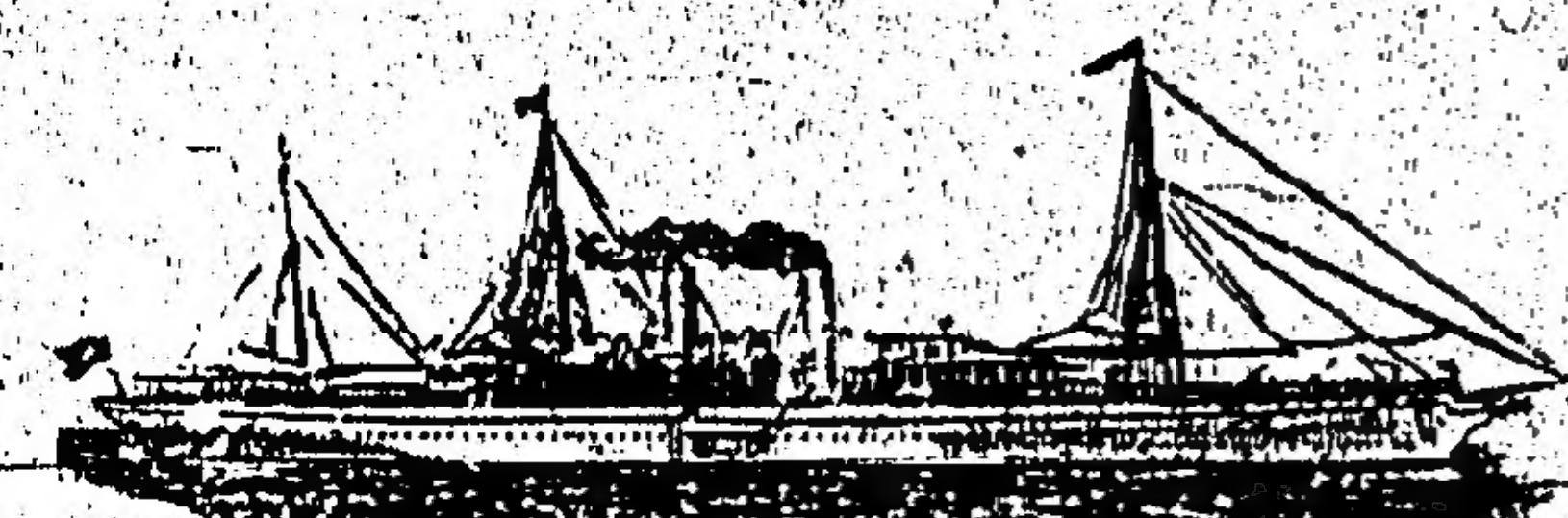
at 3 P.M., and on the following day at 11 A.M., respectively, within his residence,

"Abertholway," Peak Road,

SUNDAY, VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

Comprising—

Shipping Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 3 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

12 Days YOKOHAMA to VICTORIA. 21 Days HONGKONG to VICTORIA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. (Subject to alteration).

R.M.S.	Tons	LEAVE HONGKONG	ARRIVE VICTORIA	Arrival Date
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	TUESDAY, Mar 2nd		Mar. 26th
"EMPEROR OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Mar 13th		April 2nd
"EMPEROR OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, April 10th		April 30th
"EMPEROR OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, May 1st		May 2nd
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	TUESDAY, May 11th		June 4th
"EMPEROR OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, May 23rd		June 12th
"EMPEROR"	steamships will leave Hongkong at 7 A.M.			
"S.S. MONTEAGLE"	at 12 Noon.			

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA of JAPAN), KODOMO, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VICTORIA with a Special Mail Express, and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPEROR" Steamships, 14,500 tons register, thus providing a comfortable and speedy through route to Europe.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class. via Canadian Atlantic Ports or New York.

Hongkong to London, Intermediate and 1st Class on Railways.

First-class rates to London include cost of Meal and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian Pacific direct line.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, &c., Corner Pedder Street and Praya, Opposite Black's Pier.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On	Arrival Date
SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW	TUNGSHING	SUNDAY, 2nd Feb.	Daylight
SANDAKAN	MAUSANG	THURSDAY, 23rd Feb.	Noon
SHANGHAI	HANGSANG	WEDNESDAY, 24th Feb.	Noon
MANILA	LOONGSANG	WEDNESDAY, 24th Feb.	4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOJI	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 26th Feb.	4 P.M.
SGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	NAMSANG	TUESDAY, 2nd Mar.	Noon
		SATURDAY, 6th Mar.	Noon

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.

OCCURRING 24 DAYS.

The steamers *Kutsang*, *Namsang* and *Yokohama* leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

Stearns have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Vungtau, Phuoc, Tienchi & Nanchwang.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kudat, Lahad, Datu, Simporna, Tawau, Usukan, Jesselton and Labuan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,

General Managers.

Telephone No. 61, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909.

Shipping Steamers.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"JAPAN."

Captain J. G. Olliff, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 20th February, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED, Agents, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [184]

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Ports in the United Kingdom and the Continent.

THE Steamship

"MONTGOMERYSHIRE."

will be despatched as above on or about the 23rd inst.

For Freight etc., apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., Agents, Hongkong, 3rd February, 1909. [185]

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUZU CANAL (With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK.

S.S. "SURUGA" About 23rd February.

For Freight and further information, apply to DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, Agents, Hongkong, 28th January, 1909. [186]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE (Calling at Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"ALDENHAM."

Captain St. John George, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 20th March, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To ensure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents, Hongkong, 12th February, 1909. [187]

THE BANK LINE LIMITED.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also for the principal ports in Mexico, and Central and South America.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

TO VICTORIA, B.C., SEATTLE & TACOMA, VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

TO SAIL

SHANGHAI	"ANHUI"	20th Feb.	4 P.M.
MANILA	"TAIWAN"	2nd Mar.	3 P.M.
WEIHAIWEI & CHEFOO	"HANGHOU"	22nd	4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SHACHING"	25th	"
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL AUSTRALIAN PORTS	"TAIWUAN"	26th	"
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL AUSTRALIAN PORTS	"TAMING"	2nd Mar.	3 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL AUSTRALIAN PORTS	"CHANGSHA"	8th April	4 P.M.
DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly:	"LINTAN" and S.S. "SANU"		

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried. REDUCED FARES. Cargo booked through all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

MANILA STEAMERS and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

SCHEDULE SHANGHAI STEAMERS have excellent accommodation. Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in Staterooms and Dining Saloon. Fare: \$40 single and \$70 return. Take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909.

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila—Spice and Ships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewards carried—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED,

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Date
ZAFIRO	1,540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 27th Feb. at Noon
RUBI	1,540	R. W. Almold	"	SATURDAY, 6th Mar. at Noon

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1909.

Shipping Steamers.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"KING."

Captain J. G. Olliff, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 20th February, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED, Agents, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [184]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM

FOR STRAITS, Ceylon, Australia, India, Aden, Egypt, Mediterranean, Ports, Plymouth and London.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"MONTGOMERYSHIRE."

will be despatched as above on or about the 23rd inst.

For Freight etc., apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., Agents, Hongkong, 3rd February, 1909. [185]

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUZU CANAL (With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Ports in the United Kingdom and the Continent.

THE Steamship

"BRITANNIA."

Captain S. Burcham, carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, & TO-MORROW, the 20th February, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. *Metton*, 10,000 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Ship and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. *Egypt*, due in London on 2nd April, 1909.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 p.m. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further particulars apply to E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [186]

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"DELTA."

Captain B. W. H. Snow, will leave for SHANGHAI, TO-MORROW, the 20th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent, Hongkong, 19th February, 1909. [187]

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE P. & O. S. N.

CRICKET.

LEAGUE TABLE.

Club.	P. W.	L. D.	P. Percent.
H. K. "B".....	9	0	100.00
Civil Service.....	12	9	80.00
Hongkong "A".....	9	1	55.56
Telegraphs.....	12	8	60.00
Oralgeborg.....	13	5	55.56
R. G. A.	11	3	71.43
Kowloon.....	12	2	50.00
Royal Engineers.....	9	7	77.78
H. K. Police.....	11	1	8.33
N.B.—A minus counts 1 point.			
A loss	—	—	
A draw	—	—	

HIS BROTHER'S HEAD.

SHOCKING SCENE IN A FRENCH MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The Journal publishes the following telegram from Lille, Paris:—The brother of Deroo, one of the men executed at Béthune, on Monday, succeeded in gaining an entrance to the medical school here, yesterday, by passing in with some students, and reached the lecture-room where the head of the murderer is exposed, before he was noticed. Shaking his fist at the head, the man exclaimed: "Scoundrel, this is how I find you! You have brought dishonor on our whole family!" He then rushed forward to seize the head, but overcome by excitement, he staggered and fell to the floor, and had to be removed to his home.

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

	Selling.
London—Bank T.T.	1.81
Do. demand.....	1.81
France—Bank T.T.	2.19
America—Bank T.T.	4.23
Germany—Bank T.T.	1.78
India T.T.	1.31
Do. demand.....	1.31
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	7.41
Singapore—Bank T.T. per H.K. \$100	7.41
Japan—Bank T.T.	8.51
Java—Bank T.T.	10.05

Buying.

4 months' sight L.O.	1.93
6 months' sight L.O.	1.95
3 days' sight San Francisco & New York	4.31
4 months' sight do.	4.41
30 days' sight Sydney & Melbourne	10.97
4 months' sight France	2.24
6 months' sight	2.26
4 months' sight Germany	1.81

Bar Silver..... 23.9/6

Bank of England rate 3.7 |

Sovereign..... 11.35

SHIPPING AND MAIIS

MAILS DUE.

Canadian (Empress of India) 20th inst.

German (Kleist) 26th inst.

German (Prinz Waldeimar) 3rd prox.

Indian (Kumsang) 4th prox.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Glenfarg* left Vancouver a.m., on Wednesday.

The I. C. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Kutang* from Calcutta and the Straits left Singapore for this port on 18th inst.

The H. A. L. s.s. *Ilyda* left Singapore on 18th inst., at 4 p.m., and may be expected here on 25th inst., p.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of China* arrived at Nagasaki at 8 a.m., on 18th inst., and left again at 4 p.m., same day, for Kobe, where she is due to arrive at 6 p.m., on 19th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of India* arrived at Shanghai at 8 a.m., on 12th inst., and left again at 5 p.m., same day, for Hongkong, where she is due to arrive at 7 p.m., on 20th inst.

THE WHATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, Director of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 19th at 11.20 a.m.—The barometer has risen moderately in the northern parts of China and of Japan.

It has fallen rapidly to the Southwest of Japan and in the neighbourhood of the Loochoos, and moderately over Formosa and South China.

A well marked depression exists to the Southwest of Kiushu moving quickly to the Eastward.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inches.

FORECAST.

1.—Hongkong and Neighbourhood, Light E. winds, tending to become more northerly later, fine but hazy.

2.—Formosa Channel, Light variable winds, with fog in places.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamock, same as No. 2.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan, same as No. 1.

Shipping.

Arrivals.

Helene, Ger. s.s. 771, J. Jeisen, 18th Feb.—

Canton 18th Feb, Gen.—J. & Co.

Sabine Rickmers, Du. s.s. 573, Smith, 18th Feb.—Canton 18th Feb, Ballast.—A. P. & Co.

Britannia, Br. s.s. 5,378, S. Barcham, 19th Feb.—Singapore 16th Feb, Mails and Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Montrose, Br. s.s. 2,884, R. Glegg, 19th Feb.—Liverpool via Singapore 12th Feb, Gen.—D. & Co. Ltd.

Tangshing, Br. s.s. 1,173, W. Stalker, 19th Feb.—Canton 18th Feb, Gen.—J. M. & Co.

Hangchow, Br. s.s. 990, Mawley, 19th Feb.—Canton 18th Feb, Gen.—B. & S.

Kwangtze, Ch. s.s. 1,168, Froberg, 19th Feb.—Canton 18th Feb, Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Hainan, Br. s.s. 636, J. W. Evans, 19th Feb.—Swatow 18th Feb, Gen.—D. L. S. & Co.

Palembang, Dut. s.s. 1,119, Legas, 19th Feb.—Singapore 4th Feb, and Haiphong 15th Feb.—A. P. & Co.

Tean, Br. s.s. 1,146, Outerbridge, 19th Feb.—Maula 16th Feb, Sugar, Hemp and Gen.—B. & S.

Takosan Maru, Jap. s.s. Yamaruki, 19th Feb.—Maji 14th Feb, Coal.—M. B. K.

Abul, Br. s.s. 1,350, J. Meathrel, 19th Feb.—Canton 8th Feb, Gen.—B. & S.

Hongkong "A"

Colombo

Taiwan

H. M. S. Virago

Cosmopolitan

DUCHESS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCKS.

H. M. S. Whiting

Taric

Patria

Colombo

Taiwan

H. M. S. Virago

Cosmopolitan

Ships Passed The Canal.

1st January—Goben, *Indrasamha*, *Hakata*, *Maru*, *Maru*, *Prinz Regent Luitpold*, *Prometheus*, 12th January—*China*, *Flintshire*, *Koma*, *Glenroy*, *Sakae*, *Cathay*, 15th January—*Pelio*, *Achilles*, *Dunbar*, *Palawan*, *Palermo*, *Tenakai*, 19th January—*Armand Béhier*, *Bon-venus*, *Calcas*, *Danibishire*, *Montrose*, *Sophie Richers*, 23rd January—*Belou*, *King Chow*, *Lauris*, *Princess Alice*, *Watara Maru*, *Iourane*, 26th January—*Sithone*, *Glamorgan*, *Hilachi Maru*, *Konane* St., 29th January—*Tudor Prince*, *Ching Wo*, *Erasst*, *Simons*, *Mayne*, *Stella*, and *Febuary*—*Antiochus*, *Austria*, *Bonlawer*, *Indramayo*, 31st, *Kedua*, *Palmi*, *Scanda*, 3rd February—*Kleis*, *Derflinger*, *Sado Maru*, *Actis*, *Up Berlindor*, *Dardanus*, *King Suzy*, *Amakura Maru*, *Nera*, 9th February—*Tranguebar*, *Melman*, *Lennox*, *Ambric*, *Nile*, *Thesus*, 12th February—*Indrawati*, *Tonkin*, *Hyson*, 16th February—*Monmouthshire*, *Itria*, *Sumatra*, *Lithia*, *Stam*.

Arrivals at the Harbour Office.

Tibetan, for Swatow.

Namastha, for Moji.

Vorwärts, for Shanghai.

Holten, for Swatow.

Rome, for Saigon.

Palembang, for Canton.

Sutan, for Yokohama.

Norman Prince, for Shanghai.

Rajah, for Hongkong.

British, for Bangkok.

Rasor, for Tamsui.

Chinastar, for Amoy.

Sabine Rickmers, for Amoy.

MacHale, for Haiphong.

Rajah, for Bangkok.

Chinastar, for Shanghai.

Sabine Rickmers, for Amoy.

MacHale, for Haiphong.

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Chinastar, for Shanghai.

Sabine Rickmers, for Amoy.

MacHale, for Haiphong.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. H. S. Kadoorie & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	AT WORKING ACCOUNT	LAST DIVIDEND	AMOUNTS RECEIVED AT PRESENT QUOTATION, LAST YEAR'S RATE	CLOSING QUOTATIONS
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	(\$1,500,000) \$14,000,000 \$250,000	\$2,005,774	Interim of 2/- for first half year @ ex 1/10—\$21,042	51 1/2	\$85 buyers London £86
NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.								
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	(\$6,000) \$10,000	\$10,223	\$2 (London 5/6) for 1903	...	51
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$20	\$1,500,000 \$232,575 \$116,000 \$155,000	2008	\$14 for 1907	74 1/2	510 buyers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 150,000 Tls. 305,747 Tls. 112,777	Tls. 160,513	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	51 1/2	Tls. 100 sellers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	\$1,500,000 \$204,748 \$139,095 \$227,045	\$3,506,011	Final of 5/- making 34/- for 1906 and Interim of 3/- for 1907	51 1/2	1825 buyers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	15,000	\$100	\$60	\$1,000,000 \$109,032 \$85,537	\$591,763	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1906	83 1/2	\$100 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$1,000,000 \$146,092 \$13,803	\$172,432	50 and bonus \$2 for 1906	71 1/2	\$100 sellers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$80	\$50	\$1,225,941	\$428,027	50 for 1906	83 1/2	\$350 buyers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manilla Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$10	\$7,000 \$264,931 \$50,002	\$1,015	\$1 for 1906	...	\$12 sellers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$10,000 \$607,100 \$79,421 \$21,244 \$10,000	Nil.	\$2 for year ending 30.6.1908	71 1/2	\$14 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$20,770	Final of 5/- making \$2 for 1908	83 1/2	\$188 buyers	
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred) Do. (Deferred)	60,000 60,000	£5	£5	(\$1,000,000) \$240,000	413,755	5/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex ex 1/9 1/16—\$3, 154	51 1/2	338 buyers \$18 buyers
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited (Preference) Do.	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 75,000 \$120,000 \$10,000	Tls. 14,510	Final of Tls. 14 making Tls. 3/- for 1908	71 1/2	Tls. 471 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	(\$1,000,000) \$5,000 \$47,231	£61,817	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	6 1/2	491 buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	£10	£10	(\$1,000) \$10,000	598	(\$1.00) for year ending 30.4.1908 (\$0.50)	4 1/2	\$15
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 14 making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 1/2	Tls. 45 sellers	
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	Dr. 279,371	50 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$130 sellers	
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	Dr. 513,138	51 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$17	
Penang Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 9,173	51 for year ending 31.12.06	...	105 sellers	
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£2	£2	(\$175,000)	£11,556	Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year ending 29.2.08	7 1/2	Tls. 16,55 sellers
Rub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£2	£2	(\$12,885)	Dr. 2,191	No. 12 of 1/-=48 rents	...	\$81 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$53,601	\$3,740	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	(\$10,000) \$156,866 \$40,000	58,556	Final of \$1/- making \$3/- for 1907	71 1/2	166 buyers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$10	(\$10,000) \$170,197	584,847	Interim of \$4 for account 1909	83 1/2	592 sellers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 667,357	Tls. 33,742	Interim of Tls. 24 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	61 1/2	Tls. 78 buyers
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 75,000 Tls. 135,000	Tls. 22,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	11 1/2	Tls. 165 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,532	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 1/2	Tls. 104 buyers
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	£25	£25	(\$10,000) \$125,000	£4,200	\$2 for year ending 30.6.07
Central Stores, Limited	50,158	£25	£25	(\$10,000) \$125,000	£9,178	\$1.50 for 1906
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	£50	£50	(\$10,000) \$164,975	£14,039	Interim of 3/- for account 1908	7 1/2	190 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	(\$10,000) \$130,000	26,475	Final of 3/- making \$7 for 1908	71 1/2	593 buyers
Humphreys-Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	(\$10,000) \$121,323	£5,86	6 cents for 19 8	7 1/2	1865 sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$10	None	£278	5/- for 19 8	5 1/2	1508
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,629,045 Tls. 313,000	Tls. 142,404	Final of Tls. 3 and bonus of Tls. 2 making Tls. 8 for 1908	7 1/2	120 sellers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$10	None	£9,938	Final of \$2 making \$4 for 1908	9 1/2	144 sellers
COTTON MILLS.								
Woo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	(\$10,000)	Tls. 8,820	Tls. 5 for year ended 31.10.1908	51 1/2	190 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	£10	£10	(\$10,000) \$120,000	£9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	51 1/2	191 buyers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 175,000	Tls. 3,372	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.6.06 (8%)	...	Tls. 74
Lau-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	None	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1906	...	79 buyers
Soy Chas Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 28,357	Tls. 50 for 1906	...	975 sellers	
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Sell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	£1/6	£1/6	(\$1,500)	£648	1.10/- per share or 1907=\$1,037	11 1/2	19 buyers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	£12	£12	Nil.	£1,20	1.20 or 1907	10 1/2	112 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	£10	£10	None	60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	192 buyers	
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	£10	£10	(\$10,000)	£3,407	80 cents for 19 8
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	£71	£6	(\$10,000)	£48	£1.30 for year ending 31.7.08	51 1/2	194 buyers
Green-Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	£10	£10	(\$10,000) \$150,000	£5,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	10 1/2	570 sellers
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	£10	£10	(\$10,000) \$150,000	£252	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	10 1/2	192 buyers
Hull & Holt, Limited	21,000	£20	£20	(\$10,000) \$186,000	£1,957	5/- for year ending 28.2.08	10 1/2	193 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	£10	£10	None	£3,522	5/- and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 30.6.07	64 1/2	1920 sellers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	£25	£25	(\$10,000)	£4,578	Interim of 2/- for account 1903	8 1/2	1920 sellers
Hongkong Ropes Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	£10	£10	(\$10,000) \$150,000	£8,192	Interim of 2/- for account 1908	10 1/2	1921 buyers
Maastrachijp tot Mijne, Bosch's Landbouwzaak, plattelat in Langkat, Limited	25,000	£100	£100	(\$10,000) \$150,000	£17,127	4th Quarterly div. of Tls. 10 and bonus of Tls. 10 making Tls. 10 to date	6 1/2	850 sellers
Park Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	£10	£10	None	£7,471	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on 1/- paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 1/2	850
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	£10	£10	None	Nil.	None
Sh								

Telegrams

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

STANDARD WEIGHT OF COINS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 12th February. No definite decision has been come to regarding the standard weight of the new silver coins.

Duke Tsai, president of the Ministry of Finance, is in favour of seven mace two cattareen, while a certain Grand Councillor has pointed out that since the one-tael coin has been adopted it is inadvisable to effect any change.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

THE NEW TREATY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 12th February. The new Treaty between America and China having been sealed with the seal of the Prince Regent has been despatched to H.E. Wu Ting-fang, Chinese Minister in Washington, for exchange for the copy signed by the United States Government.

VICEROY HSU SHI-CHANG.

SEEKS RETIREMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 12th February. H.E. Hsu Shi-chang, Viceroy of the Three Eastern Provinces, has telegraphed to the Central Government representing his inability to accept the appointment as President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, in consequence of serious illness.

The Viceroy has again applied for leave to retire from active service.

CHAN PIK.

DESERVES PUNISHMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 12th February. The Censors propose to forward a joint memorial urging that Chan Plik, ex-President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, be handed over to the Board of Punishments to be dealt with, as they are of opinion that the ex-Minister deserves more than simple dismissal from office.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 12th February. The Waiyipu in a Communication to the Russian Minister in Peking asked that Commissioners be appointed by both countries to settle all pending questions regarding territorial boundaries.

MINISTRY OF POSTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

HSU HSI-CHANG DENOUNCED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th February. A Censor has memorialized the Throne to the effect that Hsu Hsi-chang (who has been appointed substantive President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications) is not conversant with railway, shipping and postal affairs; he is therefore incompetent for the post. The memorial has been shelved.

Later.

The Prince Regent has instructed Lei Tin-lam, Acting President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, to effect reforms in the Ministry and to discharge superannuated officials.

Lei was also enjoined not to fall into the errors of the former President, Chan Plik, who had been cashiered.

Later.

Lei Tin-lam has taken up the duties of President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications. He has begun by reducing considerably the salaries of officials, including Leung Tae-yi's emoluments.

Tee has decided to resign.

Viceroy Chang of Canton proposes to take the latter official back into the service of his provincial administration with a view to placing him in charge of railway affairs within the province.

Later.

Hsu Hsi-chang has telegraphed to Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung strongly urging that he should not be appointed to the Presidency of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, since he is apprehensive lest, the post being an important one, he will invite jealousy from among his brother officials.

Up to the present, already seventeen officials have resigned their offices from the Ministry of Posts and Communications.

H.E. HSU LIANG.

REFUSES MANCHURIAN VICEROYALTY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th February. H.E. Hsu Liang, Viceroy of the Yunkwei Provinces, has memorialized to the effect that he be not transferred to the Viceroyalty of the Three Eastern Provinces.

The Central Government would not, however, attend to the prayer of the memorialist.

EX-VICEROY SHUH.

PROPOSED RECALL TO OFFICE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th February. The Grand Councillors, recognizing the Prince Regent's desire to have the return of ex-Viceroy Shuh to office, propose that, upon the termination of the one hundred days' mourning, he be recalled for re-appointment to an office of State.

GOVERNOR OF HONAN.

DENOUNCED BY A CENSOR.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th February. A Censor has severely denounced the Governor of Honan. The memorial has been shelved.

CASHIERED OFFICIALS.

NO REINSTATEMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 14th February. The Prince Regent has a great dislike for office-seekers.

His Highness has disallowed the presentation of memorials in favour of reinstatement into office of cashiered officials.

SHANGHAI CLUB.

CORNER-STONE LAID TO-DAY.

USUAL ATTENDANCE WHEN SIR PELHAM WARREN APPEARS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 16th February. Sir Pelham Warren, the British Consul-General at Shanghai, laid the corner-stone of the new Shanghai Club to-day.

There was a large attendance.

CHAN PIK'S DEPARTURE.

A POOR SEND OFF.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 18th February. Chan Plik, ex-president of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, left Peking on the 16th inst.

Only a few Japanese saw him away.

HSU SHI-CHANG'S IMPEACHMENT.

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 18th February. The Censors denounced H.E. Hsu Hsi-chang, Viceroy of the Three Eastern Provinces, for having, it is alleged, embezzled large sums of money.

Confidential instructions have been despatched to Luk Sing-lam, Tseh Liang and Young Shi-chang to conduct secret investigations into the truth of the allegations.

Later.

In their memorials, the Censors stated that, when Chiu I-cheung left the Viceroyalty of the Three Eastern Provinces, there was a credit balance (in the Provincial exchequer) of seven million taels. Since H.E. Hsu Hsi-chang was appointed Viceroy he has spent money recklessly with the result that there is now a deficit of six million taels.

Later.

Lei Tin-lam has taken up the duties of President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications. He has begun by reducing considerably the salaries of officials, including Leung Tae-yi's emoluments.

Tee has decided to resign.

Viceroy Chang of Canton proposes to take the latter official back into the service of his provincial administration with a view to placing him in charge of railway affairs within the province.

Later.

Hsu Hsi-chang has telegraphed to Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung strongly urging that he be reinstated by day and night.

MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

DINNER TO SIR ROBERT HART.

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce held a dinner of the members to meet Sir Robert Hart, Bart., D.C.M.G., at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, on 20th ult. The chairman was Mr. Francis Ashworth, President of the Chamber, who was assisted by a company of 250 members and their friends, including Sir F. F. Adam, C.M.G. (Treasurer, Manchester Chamber of Commerce), Mr. H. Armitage, M.W. Ashworth, Mr. A. G. Angier, Mr. W. Bardsley, Mr. R. N. Barclay, Mr. T. H. Barker (Secretary, Liverpool Chamber), Mr. C. Chabot, Mr. Gustav Behrens, Mr. A. J. S. Blew (President Consular Association), Mr. W. P. Byles, M.A., Mr. J. K. Bythell (Chairman, Manchester Ship Canal), Mr. P. G. Chilton, Mr. Wm. Crowther, Mr. J. D. D. Mr. Chas. Dukfield (President Liverpool Cotton Association), Mr. Gustav Eckhard, Mr. A. Ellinger, Mr. Drummond Fraser, Mr. A. Galbraith, Mr. B. Harrison (President Blackburn Chamber), Mr. John Harrop (Drapers' Lord Mayor), Mr. A. Haworth, M.P., Mr. Chester Hixworth, Mr. G. Hillierman, Sir Wm. Hobbs, Bart., M.P., Mr. Alfred Hopkins, K.C., &c. (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manchester), Mr. L. H. Jenkins (Mayor of Salford), Mr. A. L. Jones, K.C.M.G. (President Liverpool Chamber), Mr. W. Joyson-Hicks, M.P., Mr. G. D. Kelly, M.P., Mr. S. Kilmister, Mr. Ivan Levinstein, Mr. H. W. Macmillan (President Manchester Cotton Association), Mr. C. W. Macrae, Mr. C. T. Nauman, Mr. J. E. Newton (President Oldham Chamber), Dr. Niven (President Manchester Statistical Society), Prof. E. H. Parker, Mr. F. W. Peal (President of the Bankers' Institute), Mr. A. D. Provost, Mr. Alfred Ree, Mr. Alex. Reid, Mr. Arthur Reiss, Mr. H. J. Reiss, Mr. W. T. Stubbs (Vice-President Manchester Chamber of Commerce), Mr. S. J. Thomson, and Mr. F. Zimmerman.

The usual loyal toasts having been honoured, the President said:—

Our thoughts to-night naturally centre around China, that vast country, exceeding in area any other country in the world under single government—excepting Russia, Siberia—and containing a population equal to that of the whole British Empire, India included. China had a civilization of her own long before Europe had emerged from barbarism—but she was content with that form of civilization during the centuries in which Europe was gradually advancing in her civilization, and China was eventually left far behind. In course of time, as their industries expanded, the people of the West looked longingly towards that great, mysterious country in the Far East, craving to tax its wealth and to find markets for European products. The effort to gain a firm footing for British commerce in China lasted for 65 years, dating from Earl Macartney's ill-fated mission in 1793. It is a grim story, associated with much bloodshed, and in some of its aspects not very creditable to us as a nation. However, in 1842 we got possession of Hongkong, which gave us a *play de force* in Southern China, and we obtained openings for trade at Shanghai and some other ports. But China continued to resist our intercourse, and it was not until the combined forces of England and France had occupied Canton, captured the Taed-Forts in the Nerb, and penetrated to Tientsin, in 1858, that the Chinese yielded, and granted freedom of trade by treaty. But more severe fighting was required before the treaty was ratified in 1860. This Tientsin Treaty has been termed the "Magas Chia" of foreigners to China, and it has governed the relations between China and Western nations from that time to the present day. These remarks present a very cursory review of the course of events—rebuffs and reprisals, successes and failures—during the first 60 years of the 19th century, but they bring me to the point at which our distinguished guest, Sir Robert Hart, whom we are delighted to welcome here to-night upon the scene. In 1859 young Mr. Hart, as he then was, was assigned by the British Consular Service to join the Chinese Customs service, and in 1863 he received the important appointment of Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, with headquarters at Peking. It was a splendid appointment for so young a man, and proved a most fortunate one for the Chinese Government. Foreign merchants quickly realized the benefits of the new regime, and in the course of years, the Chinese Customs service gained a wide, wide reputation for excellent management and reliability. A knighthood, and, later, a baronetcy, came to Sir Robert from his own grateful country, and other European nations showered honours upon him. Thirty years after his appointment, Sir Robert Hart has become the most trusted man of European birth in the Far East. In his capacity as Agent-General of the Chinese Government he preserved the most confidential relations with him. The Customs receipts being mortgaged to meet China's foreign loans, European financiers came to look upon Sir Robert Hart almost as a personal security for these loans, which, after the China-Si-pan war, had reached £10,000,000 sterling. Sir Robert's responsibilities constantly increased. Besides the control of the Customs and the foreign debt service, he successively undertook the management of the Chinese Postal Service, the lighthouse service, preventive service, and various minor matters. Of his invaluable aid as a diplomat during those critical years following 1863, the Chinese officials are the best judges. Nearly every European nation was demanding special privileges, and "hanging round the 'sick man'" to secure a "bountiful" share of his property. 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Hongkong University Scheme.

THE GOVERNOR'S VIEWS.

ANOTHER STEP TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF THE SCHEME.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to consider the proposal to establish a University in Hongkong was held last Monday forenoon at which His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard presided. The Committee, most of whom were present at the meeting, consist of the following gentlemen:—His Lordship the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Victoria, H. N. Mody, Esq.; The Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.; The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.; The Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G.; The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, K.C.M.G.; The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.M.G.; The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G.; The Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving, The Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, and Mr. C. Clementi. The Sub-Committee comprise the following gentlemen:—

Yuen Fat Hong; Chan Chiu Chuen; Ko Shan Kuan; Ng Hon Chi; Hoa Hing Hong; O Tuo Nam; Wing Sui Lam; Liu Yam Chuen; Kwong Ma Tui; Chiu U Tin; Chiu Chan Sun; Ming Shui Hong; Siu U Fai; Ng Up Hong; King Ng Li Hing; U Wo Lung Hong; Tsang Wai Hong; Hung Kiok Hong; Cau Si; King Hoa Hong; Chan Kok Chuen; Kwong On Wing Hong; On Wan Kiu; Chip Wo Hong; Lai Shan Hing; Man Cheung On Hong; Ua Lai Chuen; Kung Ua Hong; Ua Ol U; Kwan Ma Hong; Lai Siu Cheuk; Li Sau Hin; Sing Tai Ho; Mu Kui Nam; Ming Sua; Ho; The Yam; Chi; Yat On Ho; Tam Ho Po; Po Lung California and Australian firm; Ku Fai Shan; Oa Wing; California and Australian firm; Chan Chok Ping; Ming Ki California and Australian firm; Chan San Hin; Hip On Co.; Chan Siu Ki; Tung On Co.; Lung; Pui Chi; Lau Wan Kai; Yau Wo Co.; Tong Tai; Sau; Chan Kik Sun; Chap Sing Co.; Lo Cho Sun; Siu On Steamship Co.; Chan Siu Fan; Po On Co.; Ua Chu Wan; Sam Wong Co.; Ua Yuk Chi; Ho Sing Chan; Sincers Co.; Ma Ying Pu; Wong Chung Wa Co.; Wong Pui Shan; See Wo; Pua Yan Chuen; Wang Hing; Lo Kit Ping; Chiu Leung Tai; Au Chak Man; Kwong Wing Saug; Lo Kuan Ting; Yau Cheung; Chau King Wan; Chi Cheung; Chau Cheuk Hing; Tung Kt; Tse Si; Ping; Kwok Yiu Ua; Shui Ki; Cheung Cheng Chi; Ki Hing; Pawnshop; Li Yau Chuen; Chun Cheung Wing; Wong Fa Nuk; Ua Sing Co.; Lai Yau Sang; Ua Hong Tung Co.; Chan Kai Ming; Wong Fat Yam; Wo Ki Hong; Yung Siu Pu; Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; Lau Pui Chi; Chartered Bank; Yung Sik Ting; International Bank; Ho Hoan San; Siu Hu Yuen; Holland Bank; Leung Kin On; Dutch Bank; Yung Kia Pook; French Bank; Kwok Sui Lau; Netherlands Bank; Chat Ngau Ting; Ossaka Shosha Kaihatsu; Taung Sze Kai; Douglas Co.; Chan Chik U; Jardine; Chan Kang U; Ho Fook; otherwise Ho Chak Sang; Butterfield and Swire; Ho Kom Tong; otherwise Ho Tai Sau; Mok Tso Chuo; Mok Yuk Lin; Sui Li Hong; Uo Hoi Chai; Holland and China Trading Co.; Tong Lai Chuen; Kowloon Godown Co.; Wong Kam Fuk; Jardine Sugar Refinery; Tsui Lai Chi; Tai Wo Hong; Yip Shin Kun; Shawan Tomes; Fung Wai Chuen; Watson and Co.; Lai Pak; Standard Oil; Wong Siu Tong; Jelsoon & Co.; Chan U Ting; Hongkong Hotel; Si Po Sum; Kowloon West Godown; Hung Tzi Leung; Lai Kwai Pui; co The Chua On Fire Insurance Co.; Lai; Wong Wing Siu; co The Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk; Ua Yik Nam; c/o Fat Kee; No. 226, Des Vaux Road Central; Cheung Sum Wo; No. 5, Glenealy; Kwan-Sum-Yiu; Dr. Kwan-Sum Yiu; 18A, Stanley Street; To Kok Sun; Alice Memorial Hospital; Wan Mun Kai; Dr. Wan Mun Kai; No. 12, D'Aguilar Street; S. W. Tso; '28A, Des Vaux Road Central; Siu Tak Fan; Messrs. Ewans and Harston; Chan Sui Pak; Chinese Commercial Union; Wan Tsui; The Universal Circulating Harold; Luk Hing Nam; Ngau Kui Po; Chinese Mail; Luk Pak Chau; The Daily Press; Au Tong Chi; c/o Dr. Wan Mun Kai; Lai Ut Chui; Ah Fong; photographe.

His Excellency the Governor said:—Gentlemen.—There is no need, I think, for me to address you in any detail in regard to the object which has brought us together to-day, for you have already seen the lengthy statement which I drew up; which, by the personal exertions of Dr. Ho Kai and Mr. Lau Chee Pak has been translated into Chinese. That statement sets out the object we have in view in establishing a University in Hongkong, and it also explains the nature of the task we have before us if the scheme is to be a success. In a word, is this. Mr. Mody offers to erect the buildings whatever they may cost, in accordance with the design submitted; provided, we can raise an adequate endowment fund; Some of the leading members of the community have discussed the matter with me, and we came to the conclusion that an adequate endowment meant a sum of about a million dollars. Mr. Mody has consented to keep his offer open for 6 months, but if within that period we shall have succeeded in raising a very substantial part of the money required, I have no doubt he will consent to an extension of the time. It will, however, be necessary to show that we already have a very substantial part of it in hand and in sight before we ask for an extension of time. In the meantime I have asked the Secretary of State's sanction to devote the fine site near the junction of the Bonham and Pokfulam Roads to the purpose; and I await his reply, and have no reason to think that it will be other than favourable.

I have appointed a Committee of eleven under my own Presidency to deal with all questions regarding this scheme, and they are met together to-day for the first time—the Chinese community are represented on this Committee by Hon. Dr. Ho Kai and Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk. I have also on their suggestion appointed you, gentlemen, to be a Sub-Committee for the purpose of raising funds. It will be for you to elect your own Chairman, and to organise yourselves in such a way as you may think fit with the object of dividing the work into special departments and appealing to different communities. You are at liberty to add to your numbers any other Chinese gentlemen you desire, first submitting their names to me through the Secretary of the Committee for my information and final approval. I propose that when the University is built, we shall place in the Main Entrance Hall a board upon which will be inscribed the names of those gentlemen who have given the most liberal donations to the Endowment Fund—sums above a certain limit which we will fix later—so that all those who in future years are students in the University may learn with gratitude the names of the benefactors to whom they owe the opportunities they enjoy of acquiring a liberal education in this Colony.

For my own part I have not been idle. I have written to the British Minister in Peking asking him to inform the Chinese Government of our project and to invite their support. He himself is a strong supporter of the scheme. I have written also to the Secretary of State, and I have already told you, and to the Government of India, and to the Governor of the Madras Settlement. I have not yet had time

for any reply. I have written to the Chinese Association and though no reply is yet due the President, Mr. Scott, who was lately here, most thoroughly assured me of his support, and said he would do all in his power to gain support in England. I have written to the Chancellor of the Oxford University, Lord Curzon, and to the Vicerey of Canton, and to Lord Elgin, lately Secretary for the Colonies and to other people as well, including the Municipality of Shanghai. The Chairman replies that he believes the Municipal Council of that Settlement are unanimous in the view that the scheme is entitled to the cordial support of all, and will reply more fully later on. But, gentlemen, though I have and believe I shall succeed in obtaining a wide sympathy and support for this scheme among my own countrymen in England and elsewhere I must remind you that the project is primarily for the Chinese, and I look to the Chinese to provide the bulk of the funds. I have not been very long in the Far East but I have been long enough to learn that where funds are required to some great and good purpose the Chinese are not wont to look to others. They are wont to help themselves, and to subscribe with liberality which I believe to be unrivaled by any other. Your presence here to-day, your willingness to come forward and undertake this heavy task of collecting funds proves that you consider this project to be a great and good one making for progress and enlightenment, and enabling the Chinese to hold their own among the educated and civilized nations of the world. Since you have that faith in you, I have no fear but that you will succeed in your task of raising the funds which is required. Your generous compatriots in China, in the Straits, in Java, in Siam and elsewhere will, I feel sure, help us liberally, for they will benefit by this University to which they can send their sons. Nothing that I can do to forward the scheme will be left undone, and I shall be glad at any time to receive any suggestions which your Sub-committee may wish to put forward, but it is to yourselves that I look principally to make this project a success.

Before I sit down I will draw your attention to one or two points in this scheme which I wish to particularly emphasize. 1. That this University will not be a rival in any way antagonistic to Universities, or other educational establishments in China. It will work cordially in co-operation with them seeking to afford an additional means of higher education in a place well adopted for the purpose by its situation, its Chinese population, its work-shops and hospitals and its local teaching staff.

2. That our object is to educate men who will be of practical use to China, as engineers, doctors, surveyors, electricians, &c. and also, I hope, as officials, administrators and governors. For the latter, I hope, we may be able to establish an Arts degree, which shall embrace instruction in Chinese literature and classics, as well as in the History and Ethics of the Western races.

3. Finally, I would impress upon you that our University will only issue degrees of the same validities degrees conferred by Universities in England. I do not desire to establish a University which will confer any inferior degrees, which will not be recognised in England, nor can we obtain a Royal Charter for any lesser standard.

At the conclusion of the Governor's speech, a meeting of the sub-committee was held. After some brief remarks, Mr. Rio Foot proposed the appointment of Hon. Dr. Ho Kai as president of the sub-committee with Mr. S. W. Tao as secretary.

Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

That was all the business.

THE COLONIAL CEMETERY.

BURNING OF JOSS STICKS.

The following letter was received above the signature of Mr. T. Funatsu, the Japanese Consul, in connection with the burning of joss sticks in the Colonial Cemetery, during a Japanese burial:—

Japanese Consulate, 6th February, 1909.

Dear Mr. Hutchison,—I have received your two letters this morning. Regarding the Japanese burial ceremony, it is the fact that we usually burn joss sticks according to Budhists' custom.—Yours very sincerely,

T. FUNATSU.

Mr. R. O. Hutchison minutes (6.2.09):—The burning of joss sticks is part of the ceremony in Japanese burials. At the Colonial Cemetery, Japanese are buried in part of the cemetery which is more or less separate from the rest. I do not see that the burning of joss sticks during the ceremony in that part of the Cemetery can be reasonably objected to, and would recommend that the Inspector be instructed that it is necessary to take action to stop joss sticks during a Japanese burial.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper:—I cannot agree with the proposal. The bye-laws against same were fully discussed by the Board and approved by the Legislative Council.

OPIUM SMUGGLING.

CHANDU IN A JUNK.

It will be remembered that on the 1st instant Sergeant Musel and a party of revenue officers, boarded a Chinese junk which was within the harbour limits near the Raffles Reclamation, and, after a thorough investigation, seized three tons of chandu. One of the men, says the Singapore Free Press of 1st inst., was found concealed in one of the folds of the sail, and the rest in the aft and fore holds. The chandu weighed thirty-four tubs and the raw opium fifty tubs. It was found that the value of the produce amounted to \$177. A Hylam named Sim Chin Geok was prosecuted on Wednesday before Mr. de Melo, fourth magistrate, as being the master of the junk which had been used for smuggling chandu. A question was raised and the defendant was found not to be the master, or the talkong, but the chandu. The charge against him was dismissed.

Yesterday morning before the same magistrate a similar charge was brought against the talkong named Boi Chow Joon. The defendant admitted being the talkong of the junk and knowing that the chandu was discovered on the vessel. It was brought from Haikou for the consumption of the crew. The vessel left there on Dec. 9th and arrived here on the 14th of last month. Continuing he said he was not present when the search was made.

He himself is a strong supporter of the scheme. I have written also to the Secretary of State, and I have already told you, and to the Government of India, and to the Governor of the Madras Settlement. I have not yet had time

Campaign Against Rats.

USE OF FERRETS AS DESTROYERS.

COMMUNICATION FROM CAPE TOWN.

The following comprehensive paper covering considerable space relative to the use of ferrets as agents for destroying rats was received from the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony of Cape Town and laid on the table at the fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board last Monday afternoon:—

Department of Public Health,
55, Parliament Street, Cape Town,
3rd December, 1908.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the receipt of your letter No. S.B.C. 2916/A, of the 17th ultimo, in which you ask for information concerning the use of ferrets in Cape Colony during epidemics of plague amongst rodents, and in reply am pleased to be able to furnish you with the following particulars:—

Soon after plague first broke out in Cape Town in 1901, this Government imported 250 ferrets from England; these ferrets were selected with the greatest care and were all supposed to have had and got over distemper. They proved absolutely useless.

The whole area was swarming with rodents, and the ramifications of the rat holes were extraordinary, and it was quite a common experience to put a ferret down a rat hole in one house and to have it appear in another some distance away. The ferrets frequently came across nests of young rats or the carcasses of rats dead from plague, and gorged themselves so that they were unable to get back through the hole, and while in this state, they were often lost or were set upon and killed by adult rats.

Apart from the above, however, the ferrets themselves proved to be exceedingly susceptible to plague, and a very large percentage of the animals employed died of plague soon after they were used. The exact percentage I am afraid I am unable to definitely state, as no exact records exist, for at that time the Department was working at a very high pressure owing to the necessity for safeguarding the military stores, the loss of which might have seriously hampered operations in the War. I believe, however, fully, 50 or 60 per cent actually were proved to have died from plague. A very large number died also from what was at the time believed to be distemper, but which was probably also plague. At any rate, within a few weeks, the whole 250 had died, with the exception, I believe, of two, which were handed over to the Town Council.

In subsequent operations, we never used ferrets again, but I believe that elsewhere—especially in India—the Plague Officers have had the same experience.

In dealing with the different outbreaks of plague which have from time to time occurred in this Colony, almost every possible method for exterminating rats has been tried; and a large number of experiments upon rats living under unusual conditions have been conducted by the Officers of the Department. The effect of carbon dioxide gas was tried without result; also the pouring of carbon bisulphide into rat holes, but as some premises were nearly blown up in the course of using the latter, it was abandoned with further trial. A long and costly series of experiments was carried out with the Dapsy virus, and a bacteriologist was brought out from England for the purpose, but no results were achieved worth anything. During the course of the latter experiments we had a number of rats isolated in a cellar and counted from day to day; these were fed with bread soaked in freshly prepared cultures, and although a few rodents at the first meal died, the greater number which survived appeared to flourish on the diet subsequently.

Finally, I would impress upon you that our University will only issue degrees of the same validities degrees conferred by Universities in England. I do not desire to establish a University which will confer any inferior degrees, which will not be recognised in England, nor can we obtain a Royal Charter for any lesser standard.

At the conclusion of the Governor's speech, a meeting of the sub-committee was held. After some brief remarks, Mr. Rio Foot proposed the appointment of Hon. Dr. Ho Kai as president of the sub-committee with Mr. S. W. Tao as secretary.

Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

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HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The twenty-eighth annual report is as follows:—

The general managers have pleasure in submitting a statement of the company's accounts for the year 1908.

Including \$16,475.03 brought forward from

the previous year, and after deducting \$10,000

paid as an interim dividend of \$1 per share,

the balance at credit of profit and loss account is \$16,475.03, of which it is recommended should be appropriated as follows:—

A final dividend of \$1 per share \$15,000.00

Provision for contingencies 300,000.00

To write off property etc. 2,000.00

To write off launch & lighter a/c 6,838.90

To carry forward 7,616.13

\$16,475.03

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

General Manager.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

Liabilities.

Capital, 5,000 shares of \$1 each \$15,000.00

Accounts payable 1,122.71

THE RACES.

STEWARDS.—His Excellency Sir F. J. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.; His Excellency Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir H. Lambton, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., A.D.C.; His Excellency Maj.-Genl. G. Broadwood, C.B.; Commodore H. Lyon, R.N.; The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G.; The Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.; The Hon. W. J. Gresson; Messrs. F. B. Deacon, G. Friesland, J. A. Jupp, J. C. Peter, C. H. Ross and H. P. White.

STEWARDS IN CHARGE OF THE SCALE.—Messrs. F. B. Deacon and G. Friesland.

HANDICAPPER.—Maj.-Gen. Broadwood and Mr. J. A. Jupp.

JUDGE.—The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G.

ASSISTANT JUDGE.—Mr. C. H. Ross.

STARTER.—The Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.

SECOND STARTER.—Mr. H. J. Gedde.

TIME KEEPER.—Mr. T. S. Forrest.

HON. TREASURER.—Mr. J. F. Fox-Edwards.

CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. T. F. Hough.

16th Inst.

The annual race meeting held under the auspices of the Hongkong Jockey Club was begun at the Race Course in the forenoon to-day. A dense fog hung over the Valley until shortly before the saddling bell, but before the starters for the first race entered the field the veil of mist had lifted and a bright warm sun shone over the green carpet, giving the scene around all the beauty and colour of a summer's day. The private stands with within and without the enclosure wore their usual gay aspect.

From the stand of the Sister Services near the entrance to the 1st owner's stand at the far eastern end of the paddock there was displayed a profusion of bunting and evergreen usually associated with the embellishments of the buildings within the Valley during our great race carnival. The Grand Stand, since the last meeting, has been altered out of recognition.

The structural improvements carried out by the firm of architects, Messrs. Leigh & Orange, under the personal supervision of Mr. A. Breyer, have afforded increased accommodation for the thousands of visitors who watched the races from the Stand to-day. Alterations include the doing away with the old flight of steps and in place of it several long tiers of cement-rendered steps give the front of the Stand the appearance of a gallery on which the spectators obtained an excellent view at every stage of the racing. Under the roof, over which the familiar colours of the Jockey Club floated to the breeze, increased accommodation was also provided. Long rows of seats gave plenty of room for the ladies who availed themselves of the stand during short respite from promenading on the turf below.

The ladies, with their pretty dresses, came in greater numbers after 12 m., and during the afternoon the crowd was large and picturesque. Within the ring on the green thousands of hats were watching the day's sport with interest. The private stands and the booths had their full complement of patrons. The Club Lusitano had its booth exclusively for its members.

The Band of the Buffs discoursed pleasing music throughout the day, which went a long way to add enthusiasm to the large number of citizens who had gathered at Happy Valley to enjoy day's entertainment under ideal circumstances both as to atmospheric condition, and the splendid racing provided by the numerous stables.

The Police, under Chief Inspector Baker, as usual, maintained excellent order, and the Tramway Company is to be congratulated upon the service of cars maintained throughout the day.

Mr. G. W. Gegg was the first jockey to be weighed out. There were sixteen ponies entered for the opening race of the day. It was a poor race after aretched start; a protest entered against the starting was not sustained, and the race went to Backstay who, with Highland Laddie, had the benefit of a lead from the bunch on the fall of the flag.

The Governor arrived before the commencement of the second race. With His Excellency was Miss Hanmer, attended by Capts. Taylor and Simson, A.D.C.'s to the Governor.

The Maiden Stakes was an easy win for Mr. Buxey's Little Gem Rose, Mr. Burkhill riding. The jockey received an ovation after his win. Mr. Mody again carried off another race in the Victoria Stakes with Jubilee Rose who, with his stable companion, gave a good race for Seafoam, who finished third after a splendid contest for honour. Out of three races so far Buxey's stable secured two. Our "Reader" tipped two wins out of the first three races of the day. Mr. Buxey was successful for the third time in the day, and won another exciting race with a close finish with Little Dot Rose ridden by Burkhill. After this race there was an adjournment for tiffin.

Foochow Cup was the race immediately after luncheon. Glorious Rose had the easiest of wins in this race. Starting with a considerable lead, he was never threatened. Burkhill won hands down, making the fourth consecutive win for Mr. Buxey out of five races.

Inclusive of the sixth race of the day there were no surprises and when Missouri brought the "crimson, violet cap" home a winner in the Trial Plate, the victory went to the hottest favourite, Missouri, a fancied candidate for the blue ribbon to-morrow; his last quarter to-day did not seem to have raised him in the estimation of his patrons against the Little Gem Rose, a previous winner in the day. Barry won the Garrison Cup without any difficulty.

The race for the Professional Cup was a very exciting one between Réve d'Or Rose and Volga, the latter managing to wrest the honours from the Rose by only a neck. Strath-dallas showed up poorly in this race, finishing fourth, thus giving poor promise to carry off the Derby to-morrow. It looks as if the race will go to Little Gem Rose. The tamest race of the day was the Hongkong Club Cup when Spring Rose and Coxcomb were the only two ponies that faced the starters. The win was a foregone conclusion for Spring Rose. The biggest field of the day—nineteen ponies—started for the last race, the Racing Stakes, and was won by Swan after a capital race. Mr. Toeg led the pony home after the race.

FIRST DAY.

1.—THE "WONG-NEI-CHONG" STAKES.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$100; and third \$50. For China ponies, subscription griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance \$10. Half a mile.

Mr. Moregold's Backstay, 1st 12lb. (Vida) Mr. D. Macdonald's Highland Laddie, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill) Missouri, Toeg and Speciman's Gunduck, 1st 4lb. (Hayes)

Messrs. R. R. Hynd and A. C. Hynes' Bagh Dua, 1st 12lb. (Gegg) Mr. Seth's Little Nemo, 1st 12lb. (H. Seth) Admiral Lambton's Florio, 1st 4lb. (G. C. Mackie)

Mr. Olympia's Hippomedon, 1st 12lb. (Schnorr) Mr. E. B. Chichester's Jack Straw, 1st 12lb. (Chichester)

Mr. Ottery's Tor, 1st 12lb. (Jones) Mr. Smith's Sandstone, 1st 12lb. (Morris) Mr. J. H. Lewis' Bystander, 1st 12lb. (Laurence)

Mr. Wheeler's Pip, 1st 12lb. (Hansen) Mr. Maggie's Sturdy, 1st 12lb. (Dupree) Mr. Christian's Droschkengau, 1st 12lb. (Petersen) Mr. H. Humphreys' Mummary, 1st 7lb. (Humphreys)

Cash Sweepstakes: 1st \$100; 2nd \$250; 3rd \$100.

Parimutuel: 1st \$600; and 1000; 3rd \$100.

5.—THE FOOCHOW CUP.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies who have run at any previous meeting and not won a race and Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Entrance \$10. Two miles.

Mr. Buxey's Glorious Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Messrs. Findlay & Moir's Giesler, 1st 12lb. (Vida)

Mr. Toeg & Speciman's Sutie, 1st 4lb. (Hayes)

Mr. John Paul's Vine, 1st 12lb. (Gresson)

This race was a certainty for Glorious Rose, none of his opponents showing anything like the form of the unbeaten winner of the Championships two years ago. Before the flag dropped the positions were—Vine on the rails, Glorious Rose on his left with Giesler next and Sutie on the dullish side of the course. Glorious Rose maintained the lead as soon as the flag dropped. Giesler was not far behind. Vine and Sutie kept company at the rear. The first round past the Stand saw Rose in the first place; several lengths separated the trio who were in following order—Giesler, Vine and Sutie. The procession was unchanged passing the Football Stand. At the Black Rock, Glorious Rose still maintained his lead by a wide distance from Vine, the second pony, who was in company with Giesler. Sutie was fourth. The second round past the Stand saw Rose still in the premier position, unchallenged by Giesler, second, Vine third, and Sutie fourth. Vine fell away completely at the Football Stand, and was hopelessly out of the race at the bottom of the hill. Glorious Rose ran home as he liked and won an easy race from Giesler who, though trying hard, was nowhere near the winner whom he failed to dislodge. Sutie was a poor third past the winning post.

Time: 2:07 1/5.

Winner: \$18.30.

Cash Sweepstakes: 1st \$340.20; and \$97.40; 3rd \$48.60.

Parimutuel: 1st \$6.70; and \$7.00; 3rd \$6.40.

2.—THE MAIDEN STAKES.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription Griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 5 lb. Entrance \$10. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Buxey's Little Gem Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. John Peel's Garth, 1st 12lb. (Gresson)

Mr. G. Q. Henrique's Grey Back, 1st 12lb. (Hayes)

Mr. Olympia's Achilles, 1st 4lb. (Schnorr)

Messrs. Toeg and Speciman's Desir, 1st 4lb. (Hayes)

Mr. Ellis Kadourie's Waiki Chief, 1st 12lb. (Vida)

* 1/2 lb. allowance.

Mr. Boxey's Derby pony started the favourites for the race and justified anticipations. After the fall of the flag when the sextette showed out of the bush Grey Back was in the front pursued by Little Gem Rose, and several lengths behind him followed Gresson's mount. Achilles brought up the rear. There was no change in the positions for the first furlong of the race. As soon as the field came down the bill Burkhill, called upon the Little Gem, and in less than no time the black pony shot up to the front. He held the premier position unchallenged and cantered home as a easy winner by several lengths. The race for second place was a capital one, Garth securing it by a length from Grey Back who finished third. Waiki Chief finished last in the race.

Time: 1:37 2/5.

Winner: \$11.50.

Cash Sweepstakes: 1st \$136.10; and \$390.60; 3rd \$195.75.

Parimutuel: 1st \$9.10; and \$6.00; 3rd \$19.10.

9.—THE HONGKONG CLUB CUP.—Presented by the members of the Hongkong Club. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins of this season 1908-1909 allowed 10 lb. Entrance \$10. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was practically a walk-over for Spring Rose, who led from start to finish.

Time: 2:21.

Winner: \$5.00.

Cash Sweepstakes: 1st \$125.80; and \$419.60.

Parimutuel: 1st \$3.30.

10.—THE RACING STAKES.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China ponies. Subscription Griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was practically a walk-over for Spring Rose, who led from start to finish.

Time: 2:21 1/5.

Winner: \$11.50.

Cash Sweepstakes: 1st \$136.10; and \$390.60; 3rd \$195.75.

Parimutuel: 1st \$9.10; and \$6.00; 3rd \$19.10.

6.—THE TRIAL PLATE.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China ponies. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

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Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

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This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasdust's Coxcomb, 1st 12lb. (Dupree)

This race was a certainty for Spring Rose, who had a winning mount in either Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. Extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Spring Rose, 1st 12lb. (Burkhill)

Mr. Dryasd

favour of Ferrie; Little Gem Rose displacing Toeg and Speciman's best, for third-place. Ferrie took the command at the bottom of the climb to the Black Rock. Gem Rose was now coming up strong; the little pony answered the spur in magnificent style and before the village was reached, she was already ahead of Ferrie and once in the premier position Burkhill was never threatened. Little Gem Rose, won in canter in the record time of 5 minutes and 2 seconds. Ferrie was a bad second and Volga, many lengths behind third. Mr. Moody, owner of Little Gem Rose, received a great ovation as he led the winner into the enclosure. "Prosperity to Buxey's stable" was then heartily pledged amidst cheers at Mr. Moody's private stables.

Time: 5:10.

Winner: \$7.30.

Cash Sweeps: 1st \$3,501.40; 2nd \$1,000.00; 3rd \$100.20.

Parimutuel: 1st \$7.20; 2nd \$1.60.

4.—THE GERMAN CUP.—Presented by members of the Club Germania. Second to receive \$100; and third \$75. For China Ponies, subscription Griffins of this season 1908-1909. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance Sto. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Dryasdust's Barry, 1st 1b (Dupree); Admiral Lambton's Kamran, 1st 1b... (Mackie); Mr. Oltrey's Tamar, 1st 1b... (Jones); Mr. J. Armstrong's Kirtton, 1st 1b (Gegg); Major H. Findlay's Black Sheep, 1st 1b... (Lyon); Mr. Smith's Sandstone, 1st 1b... (Morris); Mr. Olympia's Hippomedon, 1st 1b... (Schnorr); Mr. John Peal's Dunkerry, 1st 1b (Gresson); Mr. J. S. Sill's Gambler, 1st 1b (Hickman); Mr. D. Macdonald's Highland Laddie, 1st 1b... (Vida); Mr. Seth's Macscrew, 1st 1b... (Seth); Mr. Buxey's Little Dot Rose, 1st 1b... (Burkhill).

The start was not a good one. Highland Laddie had the best of it by several lengths. First time past, the winning post, Highland Laddie headed the procession by about ten lengths; the others after him were in this order: Hippomedon, Tamar, and Kamran. This was also the order the ponies covered the back stretch in. Barry, the favourite, came up strong going up to the Black Rock. Highland Laddie's superiority began to wane and what advantage he had was lost to Barry at the village. Dupree was now sure of the race, and carried the scarlet cap home a winner. Kamran was second and Tamar third.

Time: 2:44.

Winner: \$1.50.

Cash Sweeps: 1st \$1,260.00; 2nd \$360.00; 3rd \$80.00.

Parimutuel: 1st \$16.50; 2nd \$12.50; 3rd \$12.50.

5.—THE CHINA STATES.—Value \$100. Second to receive \$150; and Third \$75. For China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting of one Race 7 lb.; of two or more Races 10 lb. extra. Griffins allowed 5 lb. Subscription Griffins of Seasons 1907-1908 and 1908-1909 that have not won more than one race allowed to 10 lb. Entrance Sto. Five Furlongs.

Mr. Buxey's Re've d'Or Rose, 1st 1b... (Dupree);

Messrs. Toeg and Speciman's Pei-ho, 1st 1b... (Hayes);

Mr. Buxey's Jubilee Rose, 1st 1b... (Hayes);

Mr. Brutton's Lowlander, 1st 1b... (Burkhill);

Messrs. Findlay and Moir's Seafom, 1st 1b... (Vida);

Mr. Olympia's Poseidon, 1st 1b... (Schnorr);

Mr. Brutton's Naimie, 1st 1b... (Brutton);

Major Eaton's Gam Chick, 1st 1b... (Scarlett);

Mr. Oltrey's Tavy, 1st 1b... (Jones);

Mr. S. V. Chicheter's Sabih, 1st 1b... (Oliver);

Mr. Southdown's Off Chance, 1st 1b... (Grant);

Mr. E. B. Chichester's Sabih, 1st 1b... (Hickman);

* 1b allowance.

* 1b overweight.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the board of directors of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, to the ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the company, Queen's Building, on Monday, the 22nd inst., at 12 o'clock noon, reads:—

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 31st December, 1908.

The net profit for the six months, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to £161,981.53 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last Account £84,847.24

and from this have to be deducted:—

Directors' fees \$10,000.00

Auditors' fees 750.00

leaving available for appropriation \$160,077.77

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 8% or \$16,000 be paid to shareholders, that \$5,000 be passed to a special account (No. 1, Dock Extension), that \$3,000 be written from the value of Cosmopolitan Docks, \$25,000 from the floating plant and the balance \$187,078.77 be carried to the new account.

The new vessels in hand during the half-year under review were all completed and having passed satisfactory trials were duly accepted; the contract for building a new steel wharf for the Hongkong & Godown Co. is well in hand and most of the material on the ground or in the shops.

We were entrusted with the building of five steel caissons for bridge foundations for the Canton-Kowloon Railway; one was delivered in 1908 and the others are nearly finished.

The only new vessels in hand are two small launches on stock at Cosmopolitan Dock and a launch for harbour use at Kowloon Dock; we have had several inquiries during the year but nothing has so far resulted.

The boiler-shop extension at Kowloon is practically completed with the exception of an overhead electric crane now on order; the other extensions are well advanced.

The dredger has not been employed during the half-year except for a few days on our own account in connection with the new wharf at Kowloon.

DIRECTORS.

The Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, Mr. A. Fuchs and Mr. G. H. Medhurst having resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, the Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. G. G. R. Brodersen and Mr. Edgar G. Barrett were invited to join the Board in their places and these appointments now require confirmation.

Mr. C. G. R. Brodersen having died, Mr. H. A. Siebs has been invited to fill the vacancy and his appointment now requires confirmation.

In accordance with clauses 78 and 85 of the articles of association, Mr. G. Friesland and Mr. D. W. Craddock retire by rotation but offer themselves for re-election.

The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson has been elected Chairman for the year 1909.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. H. U. Jeffries and Mr. H. Percy Smith, F.C.A. The Directors recommend Messrs. Jeffries and Percy Smith for re-election.

W. J. GRESSON,
Chairman,
Hongkong, 15th February, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

Liabilities.

Capital 50,000 shares of \$50 each,

fully paid up \$1,500,000.00

No. 1 Dock extension account 200,000.00

Marine insurance account 78,106.27

Sundry creditors 1,851,567.83

Balance of profit brought forward from last a/c 384,847.24

Profit for the half-year

ending December 31st, 1908 261,981.53

646,828.77

Assets.

Aberdeen.

Value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement \$100,000.00

Kowloon.

Value of Kowloon Docks as per last statement \$2,575,820.00

Less amount since written off 65,810.00

2,510,000.00

Amount paid on account of boiler shop extension, boiler smith's shed, shipyard extension, fire engine and wrecking store and additions to yard plant 36,927.00

2,540,927.00

No. 1 Dock extension Account.

Amount paid as per last statement 87,791.78

Amount expended during six months 1st July to 31st December, 1908 12,445.82

100,237.60

Capital of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement 307,602.95

Less amount since written off 4,602.95

303,000.00

Value of tug, dredger, launches and lighters 505,382.89

Sundry debtors 300,879.31

Value of material expended on work in progress 211,371.47

Value of material on hand 1,298,894.60

1,420,266.05

55,276,592.87

REVENUE ACCOUNT 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

To amount paid 6 months reconstructing caisson No. 3 Dock, and repairing docks, slips and buildings after typhoon of July 1908 7,991.70

56,681.63

To crown rent 4,072.05

5,258.06

To fire insurance 30,633.64

1,861.50

To office expenses, salaries, stationery and rent of head office 25,171.20

2,120.00

To legal expenses 201,900.53

337,334.91

To marine insurance account 337,334.91

337,334.91

By net earnings 337,334.91

337,334.91

A GOVERNOR'S SUICIDE.

OFFICIALS UNAWARE OF SHOOTING TRAGEDY.

DETAILS OF DEATH OF M. BONHOURE.

Early in the morning of January 30, the news spread throughout Saigon that M. Bonhoure, the Lieutenant-Governor of Cochinchina, had committed suicide. Crowds flocked to Government House to find the sad news confirmed, and a reporter interviewed M. Outrey, a high official, whom he met in the deceased's office.

M. Outrey told the pressman how he had been invited to dinner, by M. Bonhoure the previous evening, along with two other gentlemen. The dinner lasted till 10.30, and was a pleasant function. M. Bonhoure being in good humour and not showing the least sign of being low-spirited or depressed in mind.

When the guests took leave, the Governor invited M. Outrey to come again in two days. On the next morning, at 8.30, M. Outrey, board of M. Bonhoure's suicide.

COUNCILLORS WAITING.

The members of the Executive Council arrived at Government House that morning at 8 o'clock, and were astonished at not seeing the Governor. A meeting of the Council had been fixed for that hour to be presided over by His Excellency. Thinking that H.E. was slightly unwell, they waited. Half an hour elapsed but the Governor did not come. One of the members feeling uneasy, went to the Governor's room, and found him stretched out on the bed.

He tried to arouse him and, to his horror, found M. Bonhoure dead. He rushed out and met another member of the Executive Council, who accompanied him back to the death chamber. It was only on this second visit that it was found that death was due to suicide. A revolver lay on the bed, and the Governor bore a gash in one temple.

All the time, the other members of the Executive Council were wondering what could have caused the Governor's absence. The news of his death quite stunned them. A medical examination showed that the Governor must have shot himself about midnight.

The strangest thing of all, said M. Outrey, was that nobody in the house or near it heard the least sound suggesting anything unusual.

SCENE IN BEDROOM.

M. Outrey himself, who had a room on the premises, did not hear any unusual sound that night. But he returned to his room about 11.30. In his opinion, M. Bonhoure had taken his life before that hour.

The reporter, who represented the *Saigon Opinion*, then went to the death chamber.

The Governor's corpse lay on a bed which had been made in Hongkong. The head was turned to one side, and the arms were stretched alongside the body.

The bullet had pierced the right temple, and a thin streak of blood stained the bed. The revolver lay near the head, pointed to the right also. It was an ordinary army pistol.

By that time, a number of officials had reached the room, including some law officers.

The reporter then questioned M. Outrey and the law officers about the causes of the suicide, but they could give no reason. They had found, however, that M. Bonhoure kept a diary dealing with his private affairs. Every day he jotted down his thoughts and ideas. The last entry bore date January 28.

M. Outrey and the law officers glanced at the entries for the whole of January, but could find nothing to account for the suicide.

FUNERAL.

All they knew was that the Governor, of late, had severe trouble from acute rheumatism. It was probably during an acuter fit than usual that he took his life.

Another conjecture was that the European mail which arrived on the fatal day had brought him bad news.

A medical examination of the body certified that death came from a revolver shot through the brain where the bullet lodged.

Crowds visited Government House all that day.

M. Bonhoure was born at Nimes in France, in 1854, and began his career in the Civil Service in Tonkin, in 1871. He served next on the Guinea Coast, at Cayenne, the Somal Coast, and Martinique. From there he was transferred back to Indo-China in 1907. He bore an unblemished record of service.

The burial took place on February 1. About 20,000 persons attended. Heaps of flowers covered the coffin, which was let down into the grave amid the sound of cannon.

Strong adverse comment was aroused by the fact that the Bishop of Saigon was not present at the funeral. Church and State are not yet separated in Cochinchina, remarks the *Opinion*. The Bishop is still a functionary, and, as such, have attended the funeral of his official chief, without any thought what might have been the latter's political and religious opinions.

Speeches were delivered at the grave by two higher officials, the Mayor of Saigon, and by a law officer.

The latter spoke in the name of the Masonic lodges in the Colony, and dwelt upon the high character of the deceased, and his eminence as a Mason. — *Saigon Times*.

ROBBERY AT CARLTON HOTEL.

CLEVER BURGLAR LEAVES NO TRACE.

17th inst.

Particulars of a very ingenious burglary which was committed last night at the premises of the new Carlton Hotel have been placed at our disposal. According to the story, which has been courteously supplied to us, it would appear that sometime last night (the exact time is not known) room No. 34 was entered into by some ne'er-do-well—or more than one person of that kidney for a matter of that—for investigation purposes. The theory, brought forward is that the robber gained access into the room by means of the veranda. Being satisfied that there was no one to disturb him in his midnight depredations, and evidently imagining that the others had tasted not wisely but too well under the happy influences of Happy Valley, the thief started to see what he could get as a reward for a visit, when his greedy vision fell on a gold watch and chain and a wrist-strap on the man's neck. With out waiting to answer to the calls of conscience—for the very simple reason that he had none—he gently appropriated the valuable articles, and without waiting for further gratification—for our hero, he said to his credit, was unselfish—he decamped quietly as he came, not before, however, adding a pair of trousers to his booty from another room.

On waking up in the morning, the victim of the robbery proceeded to look at the damage, when he received a rude shock by discovering that the watch had mysteriously disappeared! On further investigation, a wrist-strap was also found to be missing. The other things, as already stated, were left untouched.

The matter has been reported to the Police, but circumstances would seem to indicate that there is no likelihood of the missing valuable being recovered.

There will be an auction of the papers and magazines for the present year at headquarters on Monday, 22nd instant, at 6.15 p.m. Purchaser will be able to take away their papers forthwith.

ANNUAL REPORT.

THE DISMISSAL OF CHEN PI.

Excepting the downfall of Yuan Shih-kai nothing more conspicuous has happened during the present reign than the cashiering of Chen Pi, late President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications. The two events are, of course, in no way comparable. Scarcely an effort has been made to veil the fact that personal animus prompted Yuan Shih-kai's overthrow; and the utmost that may be hoped of it is that it will not prove a deterrent to any fulfilment of the much-promised reforms. But the downfall of Chen Pi would appear to be a simple act of justice, the one tangible outcome yet unvoiced from the mere of appeals, warnings and threats. The swiftness with which condemnation has followed on impeachment is in itself remarkable. It is true that Grand Secretaries Sun Chai-nai and Na Tung who investigated the case refused to convict on the grave charges of bribery and misappropriation of foreign loan; and some attempt was made to save the fallen Minister's face by laying the greater share of blame on an Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of the Interior. But his guilt, or maladministration, was enough to warrant his being dismissed from office, while three chief undertrappers, including the Assistant Secretary, already mentioned, have shared in his disgrace. In short, the *North China Daily News* observes, we are to suppose that a clear sweep has been made and that the Yuchuanpo starts on a new basis. In that event it is to be hoped that we have heard the last of the proposal, originating, we may remember rightly, with Chen Pi himself, to cut the Post Office administration from the Imperial Customs. It is not disputed that the postal service of China has made considerable strides in recent years and may be regarded as a sound organization. But it is scarcely in a condition as yet to stand alone without the guarantee implicit in its relationship to the Customs; while in any case it is still indebted to the latter for loans contracted while it was still an infant, and a very struggling industry. Unhappily for the hopes that might have been founded upon the clearing of the Yuchuanpo, we are now confronted with another of those familiar re-shufflings of high officials which are apt to recall the vague machinations of a beginner at the game of patience. The Ministry of Posts and Communications is, in itself, a notable example of the evils of perpetual changing and since the condemnation of Chen Pi must have been intended quite as much for a terror to evil-doers in general as for any other purpose, it should have been possible to leave Li Tse-ling in charge as Acting President, on the chance of his proving himself worthy for substantive appointment, without calling up his Excellency Hau Shih-chang from Manchuria. Two important vice-royalties are thus disturbed for the sake of a 'Ministry' which, certainly in other countries, takes a secondary place among state departments. The fact that Hsu Shih-chang, may be reckoned among the promising administrators (albeit he would appear to be somewhat over-ambitious) who have been intended quite as much for a terror to evil-doers in general as for any other purpose, it should have been possible to leave Li Tse-ling in charge as Acting President, on the chance of his proving himself worthy for substantive appointment, without calling up his Excellency Hau Shih-chang from Manchuria. Two important vice-royalties are thus disturbed for the sake of a 'Ministry' which, certainly in other countries, takes a secondary place among state departments. 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Sugar Duty.

BILL BEFORE THE JAPANESE DIET.

HONGKONG SUGAR IN JAPAN.

Tokyo, 27th January.
The Committee in the House of Representatives on the Government Bill relating to the reimbursement of Customs duty on imported crude sugar sat at 10 a.m. to-day.

In view of the important nature of the Bill Mr. Ooka, Chairman of the Committee, suggested that a verbatim note should be taken of the proceedings, and the meeting unanimously assented.

The proceedings were opened by a speech of Mr. Nakatsuji, Vice-Minister of Finance, on the Bill. The Vice-Minister said that sugar was protected by the Conventional Tariff, so custom duty higher than 10 per cent. *de visu* could be imposed on refined sugar. The output of crude sugar in Japan was still insufficient to supply all the demands of the sugar-refining mills in the Empire, and crude sugar was imported from Java to make good the deficit. Moreover, the crude sugar produced in Japan was inferior in quality. On the imported crude sugar Customs duty of more than 20 per cent. was imposed. This placed the sugar refined in Japan in an awkward position and rendered it difficult to compete against foreign refined sugar. It was therefore desirable to reimburse the output of crude sugar imported from Java and thus encourage the Japanese industry. The Government was anxious to supply the demand with crude sugar produced in Japan, but sugar produced in Formosa had not developed to such an extent as to check the import of foreign sugar. For this reason the Government decided to continue the reimbursement of the duty on sugar until a revision of the treaties became available in 1911.

Mr. Tomizawa, a Yushikewai member, said that the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company had failed on account of delinquency. In the management would the privilege of reimbursement be extended to such a company, and was there any sugar-refining company which was successful in its business on account of the privilege?

The Vice-Minister of Finance replied that it was necessary to keep this law in force so long as the Japanese continued to use sugar.

Mr. Fujisawa, a member for Otsuka, asked why the Government had originally decided that the existing law should not be operative after 1910.

The Vice-Minister replied that the sugar industry in Formosa was at first estimated to develop to such an extent that the law would be unnecessary by that time. His expectation had not been realized, and it was now proposed to extend the term of the law. The total annual consumption of sugar in the Empire was about 200,000,000 kin, of which about 110,000,000 kin was imported from abroad. The Customs duty on refined sugar was 80 sen per 100 kin, while crude sugar imported from Java was subjected to a duty of Yen 25. To produce 100 kin of refined sugar required 110 kin of crude sugar. This disparity of Customs duty between the two qualities of sugar rendered the continuance of the law necessary. The Vice-Minister added that new sugar-refining machinery in Formosa would commence operations this year, and the output of sugar in the island each year from now was estimated as follows—

1909	90,000,000 kin.
1910	110,000,000 "
1911	140,000,000 "
1912	170,000,000 "

The consumption of foreign crude sugar was gradually decreasing. According to past experience, the total consumption of sugar in Japan was 17,000,000 kin, of which 14,000,000 kin was produced in this country. Whenever the sugar market advanced in Japan, sugar came in at once from Hongkong.

Mr. Nakamura pointed out that the authorities were discriminating in favour of Formosa sugar by imposing a lower duty than was provided by law, which practice he thought improper.

The Vice-Minister admitted the practice, and said that the quality of sugar was determined on the basis of the Dutch standard of colour. Some sugar was brownish in colour, while others bore a greenish appearance. Where the quality was doubtful, a lower duty was imposed. Last year the Formosan authorities were cautioned on this matter.

Mr. Sato, referring to the wide difference in the rate of excise on sugar—Yen 3 on the first quality, Yen 5 on the second, and Yen 8 on the third said those differences might afford many opportunities for discrimination. He asked whether the Government saw the necessity of devising a means for determining the quality with more precision.

The Vice-Minister said the Government still failed to find any better method than that adopted. In foreign countries the quality of sugar was determined by the result of chemical analysis, but in Japan more value was placed on colour than on the percentage of pure sugar contained.

Mr. Akieki thought the slow development in the sugar industry of Luchu and Oshima, the sugar-producing centres of Japan, was due to the unfair way in which taxes were imposed.

Mr. Sakuri, Director of the Revenue Bureau, replied that the cause was really due to the lack of financial facilities possessed by these islands.

The Committee then rose.

JAPANESE CUSTOMS DUTY TO BE INCREASED TO 50 PER CENT.

HEAVY DECREASE IN JAPANESE EXPORT.

Tokyo, 28th January.
The Committee on the Bill relating to the reimbursement of Customs duty on sugar resumed its sitting today at 11 a.m.

The proceedings were opened by the reply of Mr. Sakuri, Director of the Revenue Bureau, to the question put the previous day in regard to the quantity of sugar on which the excise was imposed in Formosa, and the amount of excise thereto during the period from April to November last year. Mr. Sakuri gave the following figures—

QUANTITY.	AMOUNT OF kin.	EXCISE
First quality	70,000,000	Yen 180,000
Second quality	30,000,000	175,000
Third quality	35,000,000	307,500
Fourth quality	38,000,000	380,000

Mr. Nakagawa Toranosuke, for Tokushima prefecture, said that the authorities appeared to be protecting the Formosan sugar industry by imposing excise at a lower rate on sugar produced in the colony, and asked whether such was the case. A Government delegate on the Bill had said, continued Mr. Nakagawa, that the existing Conventional Tariff on sugar would be repealed in July 1911, and that the import duty would be raised to 50 per cent. If this were done, there would be no necessity for reimbursing the duty on imported crude sugar, as Japanese and foreign sugar would be placed on an equal footing; but what would be done when sugar-refining mills were started in Formosa, and competition ensued between the mills in Japan Proper and those in Formosa?

Mr. Sakuri, Director of the Revenue Bureau, stated that no discrimination, whatever was made in favour of Formosan sugar, in the im-

position of excise. The Government policy in dealing with the sugar industry was to encourage the production of crude sugar in Formosa, the Luchus and Oshima, and to supply raw material to the sugar-refining mills in Japan Proper. It was doubtful whether the sugar industry in Japan (including Formosa) would develop by 1911 to such an extent as to be capable of supplying all the wants of the sugar-refining mills in Japan, which consumed 300,000,000 kin of crude sugar in 1911. The existing foreign treaties were to be revised, and the Conventional Tariff on sugar of 10 per cent. would be replaced by 50 per cent. according to the Statutory Import Tariff, and the rate of 85 sen per 100 kin now imposed on imported refined sugar would be increased to Yen 10.

Mr. Nishimura Shintaro, a Progressive, for Nagoya prefecture, wanted to know the amount of excise imposed on sugar shipped from Formosa to Japan Proper, and said it was an open secret that the quality produced in Formosa was treated as second or first quality in the matter of excise.

Mr. Hasama, a Secretary in the Formosan Government, rose to answer. Mr. Nishimura He said that the Formosan Government hoped to produce in Formosa all the sugar required in Japan, and were working hard to develop the cultivation of the cane and to improve the quality of sugar, as well as the fertilizer used in its cultivation. In Java, about 165,000 kin of sugar-cane was produced on one acre of land, while in Formosa at one time the yield was not more than 45,000 kin. As the result of the improvement made in the method of cultivation the output has now increased to between 65,000 and 70,000 kin, and it was expected to be increased to 100,000 kin. There were many sugar mills in Formosa, but with the exception of the Formosa and Enseki Sugar Mills, all the rest were quite new, having begun the operation of machinery only this year. The sugar industry in Formosa was only now beginning to grow. This evasion of law must be strictly suppressed, but leniency should be shown in imposing the excise.

The Government delegate was proceeding to say more when Mr. Nishimura interrupted and said the answer should be brief and to the point. Mr. Nishimura pointed out that the value of refined sugar exported in 1906 was Yen 84,000,000, which declined to Yen 40,000,000 in the following year, and asked what was the reason of the decrease?

Mr. Sakuri, Director of the Revenue Bureau, replied that the export of sugar to China in 1906 amounted to 70,000,000 kin and in 1907 to 14,000,000 kin. The decrease was chiefly due to the depression of trade between the two countries and the financial situation.

Mr. Nishimura said that the Government policy in encouraging the business in the colony was destined to ruin the industry in the homeland, and asked whether the Government did not think it an inconsistent policy.

Mr. Sakuri Director of the Revenue Bureau, replied that there was no inconsistency. The evasion of law must be strictly suppressed, but leniency should be shown in imposing the excise.

The meeting rose at 12 noon.—*Japan Chronicle.*

PICKPOCKETS AT HAPPY VALLEY.

ALLEGATION AGAINST TWO EUROPEAN WOMEN:

The pickpockets manouevring about the Happy Valley during the last three days have been successful in pauperising a number of people, mainly Chinese. From the 16th to the 18th inst., no less than half a dozen reports were lodged at various police stations in the Colony by persons who had had their purses stolen and by those whose pockets had been cut and the contents stolen. Allegogether it is reported that the fraternity cleared about \$800 during the race meeting. So far only one of the offenders has been arrested, and the render will recollect, he was sent to gaol yesterday. The charge against him was that of stealing a purse containing \$10.50 from an Indian on Wednesday.

Becoming emboldened by their success one of the gang went astray yesterday afternoon. An European lady was seated in a tramcar, holding in her hand a gold chain purse, containing a large sum of money, which rested on her lap. A cobbler, who apparently had been following the lady, awaited his opportunity and as soon as the car was put in motion he sprang up on the front board, wrested the purse from her hand, and disappeared in the crowd.

"Of course," said a police officer in conversation with a *Hongkong Telegraph* representative this morning, "most of the stealing is done by new arrivals from Canton. But you will be surprised to hear that we suspect two European women of pickpocketing, too. They are dressed tip-top and look well-to-do, but their presence in the crowd attracts suspicion. We have been watching them for a long while, but I believe they have 'scented the rat'."

The lady whose purse was snatched from her complained to the police, but the chances of arrest and recovery are somewhat remote.

CARELESS PASSENGERS.

NARROW ESCAPES AT THE HAPPY VALLEY.

That the police during the last three days have had their work cut out in large slices in the matter of regulating the heavy traffic at the race-course and protecting the lives of careless pedestrians who persisted in getting into danger's way, cannot be denied, and that the credit should go to them for the able way in which they carried out the task, free from any accidents, nobody will question.

There were, however, a number of persons Europeans and Chinese alike—who were a source of great trouble to the police, in that they seemed unable to look after themselves—a few of whom came very nearly losing their lives. In the words of a police officer: "They should not be allowed out without a keeper!" Had it not been for the attention paid to these people by the officers two accidents, and no doubt of a serious character, would have occurred yesterday afternoon at the conclusion of the race meeting.

As everybody knows, at that time, the traffic is at its highest. Hundreds of people are hurrying home, rickshas dashing here and there, trams coming and going, and in such a narrow road the risk run is great.

The first accident that was averted occurred a few minutes before the last race had been decided. A European was seen hanging on to a car which was travelling at the ordinary speed. Suddenly, and before anything could be done to stop him, he stepped to the ground and staggered on to the track of an approaching car. Fortunately for him, he was held in time by a policeman before he fell and swung clear of the line, otherwise no one knows what the result would have been. In another case a second European, who was in the act of stepping off a car, when another car was but a few yards away, was by chance stopped in time. The Chinese also were great offenders, their escapades being too many to mention in detail. Such carelessness is to be deplored.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the forthcoming meeting to be held at the company's offices on Thursday, the 4th March, at 12 o'clock noon, reads—

The directors have now the pleasure to submit their annual report and statement of the company's accounts made up to 31 December last.

The balance at credit of working account as per last report was Yen 372,432.78.

Add premia since received 71,748.05

Less claims paid in 1908 316,184.41

Less return premia &c. &c. 49,970.74

Balance of profit 318,735.63

It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows:

Dividend of 50 and bonus of 5 per share on 20,000 shares 100,000.00

To add extra reserve fund, which will then stand at 343,668.10

Bonus to office staff 9,355.31

Balance 318,735.63

1908.—The balance at credit of working account at the close of this year was Yen 372,434.77.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. A. G. Wood and A. Fuchs, resigned their seats on leaving the Colony and Messrs. J. W. C. Bonner and C. Brodrick were appointed to fill the vacancies, and on the regrettable death of the latter, Mr. H. A. Sieben was asked to occupy the vacant seat. These appointments require the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. Shelling and Friedland, retire by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe have audited the annual accounts and offer themselves for re-election.

E. SHELLIN, Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1st January to 31 December, 1908.

Dr.

To Charges Account—
Rent, salaries, legal and
surveys' fees, taxes,
stamp, stationery, &c. 42,081.23

Directors' and Auditors' fees 7,412.60

To Commission Account—
Agents' commissions 79,312.50

To Exchange Account 1,428.90

To Losses Account 1908—
Claims after deduction of re-
serves 136,624.08

To Amount Written Off—
Furniture account 59.00

To Balance 375,341.77

C.

By Premium Account—
Premium after deduction of re-in-
surance 483,557.93

By Interest Account—
Amount at credit, including in-
terest due on deposits and in-
vestments, &c. 160,678.01

By Transfer Fee Account—
Amount at credit 135.84

562,305.78

BALANCE SHEET.

1st December, 1908.

Capital Ac. out. \$ 400,000.00

Reserve Fund 1,000,000.00

Extra Reserve Fund 45,668.10

Investment Fluctuation Account 32,399.00

Accounts Payable—
Dividend for 1907 1,600,000.00

Losses outstanding and sundries 66,684.27

Working Account, 1908—
Balance at credit 375,311.77

52,393,093.14

A.

Cash at Bankers 575,311.21

Fiduciary Deposits at Banks—
Hongkong & Shanghai
Banking Corpora-
tion \$14,819.82

Chartered Bank of I. A. & C. 30,000.00

Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd. 30,000.00

International Banking Corporation 75,000.00

Investments—
Chinese Imp. Govt. \$ 50,000.15

E. Bonds 1,750,000.00

Hongkong Club De-
bentures 27,300.00

Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited, Deben-
tures 50,000.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

CANTON, FEBRUARY 1.

The native community of Canton city have proposed to organise a volunteer fire brigade corps, and have submitted a set of regulations to the Viceroy for his information and approval.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

On the 9th instant, at about two o'clock in the afternoon, a train going to Yun-Tan from Wong-shan, when approaching Sui-Tsun, knocked down a woman of about fifty years of age. The unfortunate woman had her legs badly injured and was removed to hospital for medical treatment. On account of the serious nature of her injuries, there is scarcely any hope for her recovery.

TAI ON' COLLISION CASE.

A Court of Inquiry was held at the British Consulate in Canton during the last few days when the British Judge from Shanghai presided, touching the collision case between the steamer *Tai On* and the theatrical junk, on board of which several lives were lost. Owing to some of the witnesses of the junk not being present, the case could not be concluded; it has been passed to the Viceroy to deal with.

OFFICIAL AFFILIATES.

At 11 a.m. to-day the Viceroy received the British Consul at Canton and the British Judge from Shanghai.

THE JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

On the 1st instant the Japanese Consul at Canton forwarded a despatch to the Viceroy, in which the Consul stated that he was pleased to note that the Japanese boycott was gradually abating, and that he begged to express his thanks to the Viceroy for having given instructions to suppress the boycott movement. However, the Consul was sorry to point out that the boycott against Japanese goods is still persistent in Chinese in other countries especially in the Straits Settlements and in America. The Japanese boycott was originally started in Canton and it spread far and wide undoubtedly with the aid of the Chinese agitators in Canton. In this case, should the boycott be entirely suppressed in Canton, the boycott in other places would certainly be brought to an end.

In the despatch the Japanese Consul again complained of the refusal of the native press in the city to publish advertisements for Japanese merchants. The Viceroy was earnestly requested by the Consul to do all in his power to suppress the Japanese boycott in order to maintain closer the friendly relations between the two nations.

Upon receipt of the Consul's despatch the Viceroy issued another proclamation on the subject and at the same time exhorted the different vernacular papers not to stir up the public feeling any more than to deal with the Japanese merchants as before.

ROBBERY.

Day before yesterday the workmen's quarters on the 7th section of the Canton-Hankow Railway in Ching-Yuen district were attacked by a number of robbers. The workmen fought against their enemies with all their might, and as the workmen were in greater numbers they ultimately secured the arrest of two of the robbers.

PRISON LABOUR.

To utilise the labour of the vagabonds now imprisoned in the gaols, the Police authorities send fifty of them to dredge the creeks in the western suburb at a remuneration of six cattareens a day.

13th February.

SUBSIDARY COINS.

The output of subsidiary coins of the value of 20 cents during last year by the Canton Mint was considerably less than that of preceding years. The profit derived from minting was only a little over \$100,000, being some \$500,000 less than that of the year before.

S. S. TAI ON' COLLISION CASE.

With reference to the collision case between the steamer *Tai On* and the junk belonging to the theatrical troupe King Wah Yuk, the British Judge from Shanghai, after hearing the evidence at the Court of Inquiry at the British Consul-General, called on the Viceroy yesterday and informed His Excellency that he would not be able to give his decision in the case until after he has returned to Shanghai.

THE "PATSHAN" INCIDENT.

In reply to the petition of Fung Tseh Son, who requested the Viceroy to communicate with the Portuguese Consul at Canton respecting the *Patshan* incident, the Viceroy stated that he had not received any reply to his despatches from the Consul as to the fixing of a day for the hearing of the case, and that H. E. would again write to the Consul urging him to fix a day as soon as possible to hear and settle the case.

HARBOUR COLLISION.

Yesterday morning a cargo-boat, while endeavouring to cross the bows of the steamer *Honam*, when the latter was approaching her wharf on arrival from Hongkong, was considerably damaged, but fortunately there were no lives lost.

FLOWER-BOAT FIRE.

During the past two days the members of the Canton Fung Pio Hospital have been engaged in their work of looking for dead bodies in the harbour after the fire at the pleasure resort of *Jan-sha-ja*; three more corpses were picked up on the 13th instant and two on the following day.

15th February.

FRESH WATER SUPPLY.

At the request of the Canton Fung Pio Hospital and other institutions, who feared that after the disastrous fire at Tai-Sia-Tau on the 20th ultimo, dead bodies may still remain floating in the harbour the water thus becoming injurious to the health of the residents, the Viceroy has now again given instructions that the free supply of fresh water by the Canton Waterworks Company to the residents along the banks in both Canton and Honam be extended to a further period of ten days from the 15th instant for the benefit of the people.

OPIUM DEN CLOSED.

The members of the Canton Anti-opium Association discovered five opium-smoking dens remaining open in Shek Wan and reported the matter to the Naamboi Magistrate, who at once sent official runners to seal up the premises.

FIRE FATALITY.

Yesterday two outbreaks of fire occurred, one in Cheung-Tong street, inside the city, and the other in Po-Kong, Honam. In the first instance one house was gutted and two others suffered slight damages, while in the second case, the fire originated in a shepherd's home killing half a dozen oxen and injuring two men.

LIKIN STATIONS.

The local authorities have received instructions from Peking to open (as many as necessary) Likin stations along all the railways in the province to collect Likin dues on goods carried by railway.

CHANGE OF OFFICE.

Tao-tai Wong Leng-put has been appointed by the Viceroy to be Acting Tao-tai of the prefectures of Kochow, Luchow and Young Kong.

In succession to Tao-tai Ying-Tau, who is proceeding to the capital for special duties.

A DELAYED DOCUMENT.

The Imperial Rescript announcing the death of the late Emperor Kwang-Hui and the Empress-Dowager did not reach here till yesterday. The reason of the delay is that the documents were sent to Canton overland by Imperial letter couriers. To-morrow morning the Viceroy and all his subordinates, civil and military, will assemble at the Yat-Kun-Ting, where the documents will be officially read out. The Imperial Rescript announcing the enthronement of the new Emperor Hsuan-Tu, is expected to arrive here about a week later.

BLACKMAILERS RUN.

The Ground Nut-Oil Guild in this city has received a blackmailing letter bearing the signatures of the robber chiefs Luk Ian-Ting and others asking for a sum of 1,000 taels each from the different oil shops in Canton. The recipients have forwarded the original letter to the officials for their information, appealing to them for adequate protection.

ADMIRAL ROBERTS BEHEADED.

On the 11th instant, the Viceroy gave authority to the Tao-tai at Shiu-Hing to behead six criminals for armed robbery.

BUTCHERS STRIKE.

Owing to the levy of taxes on butchers, a strike is now in progress in the Kam-Chuk, a trading mart in Shun-Tak. The local officials hastened to report the matter to the Viceroy and soldiers are now being sent to the spot to restore order.

16th February.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

The Canton-Hankow Railway Company will hold a general annual meeting of shareholders on the 28th day, 2nd moon, when the accounts of the Company for the last Chinese year will be presented. Shareholders are now invited to apply to the Company's offices for admission tickets to the forthcoming meeting.

ROBBERS WANTED.

Since the 13th moon, last Chinese year, sixteen cases of robbery have taken place in the stations and workmen's quarters along the road of the Canton-Hankow Railway; the Company is now offering a reward of \$100 for the capture of any of the culprits.

THE DELIMITATION OF MACAO.

H. E. Ko Yu Hin, Special Commissioner appointed by the Imperial Government to conduct negotiations for the delimitation of the boundary lines between the Chinese territory and the Portuguese colony of Macao, is expected to arrive here about the middle of the 2nd moon. The native Press in this city has published considerable comments with a view to draw the attention of the native community to the importance of the question.

ARREST OF REVOLUTIONISTS.

A letter from Kwang-hsi states that three revolutionists have been arrested in Kwei-Lin and have been beheaded by the Kwang-hsi Governor. These outlaws were found in possession of a register of their members, containing over ten thousand names; of these the majority are somewhere in the surrounding districts of the Yangtze-kiang.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY SHARES.

The collection of the second call of shares by the different institutions for the Canton-Hankow Railway Company during the last month of last Chinese year amounted to 1,110,685.0.5 taels, of which 1,053,22.1 taels were collected by the Oi-Yuk Charitable Institution, 11,000 taels by Wai-Hong, 115,500 taels by Kwong-Chai, 183,773.0.5 taels by Kwong-Yu, 94,730.0.3 taels by Shing-Ching, 37,304.2.7 taels by Mung-Shin, 47,131.5.5 taels by Shit-Ship, 6,093,19.5 taels from Hongkong, 155,000 taels from Shanghai, 11,816 taels from Macao, and 31,400 taels from Fa-shan.

CANTON CEMENT FACTORY.

The machinery ordered for the Canton Government Cement Factory has arrived and work is expected to commence shortly for the manufacture of cement by this factory.

17th February.

VALUABLE SERVICES REWARDED.

At the request of Sir Chen Tung-Liang-Cheng, president of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, H. E. Viceroy Chang Jen-Chun has recommended Tao-tai Kwong, Engineer-in-Chief of the Railway, for the Civil Rank of the Second Class in token of valuable services rendered.

ADOPTION OF STANDARD WEIGHT.

In reply to a question by a shareholder in the course of the meeting, Mr. Kon-daiho, managing director of the company, said that towards the end of last year, when the market was low, the company purchased a stock of raw cotton sufficient to last to July next. He further said that all the yarn to be produced up to the end of May next was already sold. The directors believed that a profit of \$120,000 to \$130,000 could be cleared for the present half-year, though this estimate might be a little reduced if the yarn market in China proved unfavourable. At any rate the company would not be involved in any loss. In his opinion, the cotton-spinning industry in China could not by any means prosper. Chinese spinning mills might make a profit on account of the fluctuation of silver, but this would not last long. With the exception of small districts, China was not fit for the cotton-spinning industry because of the climate, and there was no cause for fear in competition there. —*See Chronicle*.

BAKE-HOUSES AND DAIRIES.

BYE-LAWS FOR FLOOR SURFACES.

The following minute by the Medical Officer of Health inquiring whether the new bye-laws for floor surfaces of bake-houses, dairies and laundries are to be enforced in places already licensed or only in the cases of new applications for new licenses was left to the discretion of the board of directors.

In reply to a question by a shareholder in the course of the meeting, Mr. Kon-daiho, managing director of the company, said that towards the end of last year, when the market was low, the company purchased a stock of raw cotton sufficient to last to July next. He further said that all the yarn to be produced up to the end of May next was already sold. The directors believed that a profit of \$120,000 to \$130,000 could be cleared for the present half-year, though this estimate might be a little reduced if the yarn market in China proved unfavourable. At any rate the company would not be involved in any loss. In his opinion, the cotton-spinning industry in China could not by any means prosper. Chinese spinning mills might make a profit on account of the fluctuation of silver, but this would not last long. With the exception of small districts, China was not fit for the cotton-spinning industry because of the climate, and there was no cause for fear in competition there. —*See Chronicle*.

CANTON CEMENT FACTORY.

The machinery ordered for the Canton Government Cement Factory has arrived and work is expected to commence shortly for the manufacture of cement by this factory.

18th February.

VALUABLE SERVICES REWARDED.

At the request of Sir Chen Tung-Liang-Cheng, president of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, H. E. Viceroy Chang Jen-Chun has recommended Tao-tai Kwong, Engineer-in-Chief of the Railway, for the Civil Rank of the Second Class in token of valuable services rendered.

ACCIDENT AT TEA-HOUSE.

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MANUFACTURE OF PAPER.

Mr. Wei Chung-Put arrived here on the 15th instant from Hupeh with instructions to study the system obtaining at the Canton Government Paper Factory, so as to introduce the method in that province.

18th February.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

Yesterday two outbreaks of fire occurred, one in Cheung-Tong street, inside the city, and the other in Po-Kong, Honam. In the first instance one house was gutted and two others suffered slight damages, while in the second case, the fire originated in a shepherd's home killing half a dozen oxen and injuring two men.

LIKIN STATIONS.

The local authorities have received instructions from Peking to open (as many as necessary) Likin stations along all the railways in the province to collect Likin dues on goods carried by railway.

CHANGE OF OFFICE.

Tao-tai Wong Leng-put has been appointed by the Viceroy to be Acting Tao-tai of the prefectures of Kochow, Luchow and Young Kong.

It is now ascertained that at present there are altogether ninety-three of these boats in Canton harbour. They have been ordered to vacate the water in three days' time.

CANTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

A few months ago, the Canton Christian College received the handsome donation of \$10,000 from Mr. So-king-Kui, \$1,000 from Sir Chen Liang-Ching, and sums ranging from one hundred to several hundred dollars from several other persons towards the funds for its maintenance. On the 15th instant, Mr. Tam-Lai-Ting, a coal merchant of the *Ou-Hing* Company, unscrupulously steam-launched to the College for the use of the students. This launch has been named *Tu-Nam*.

GOVERNMENT CEMENT FACTORY.

The Canton Government Cement Factory has solicited the Canton-Hankow Railway Company, the Canton-Kowloon Railway Company and the Chao-chung-Swato Railway Company and some others for orders to supply cement for their use.

ADMIRAL ROBERTS BEHEADED.

It is learnt that the motor-launch now in course of construction by W. S. Bailey and Company of Hongkong to the order of Admiral Li-Chu will be named *Ts. Tung*.

BUTCHERS STRIKE.

Owing to the levy of taxes on butchers, a strike is now in progress in the Kam-Chuk, a trading mart in Shun-Tak.

SCENE AT THE HAPPY VALLEY.

Happy Valley was the scene of some disturbance yesterday afternoon, and it is to be wondered at that the peace-breakers made their debut in the Police Court to-day. So-Sing was the first to answer the charge of disorderly behaviour. According to the information laid against him Su was returning to town via Morrison Gap, and when requested by an Indian policeman to keep clear of the vehicular traffic he refused. The result was that he was pushed to one side of the road. This Su resented, and, assisted by his chums, the policeman had a rather exciting time dodging stones alleged to have been hurled by them. Su was captured after a while; his friends managed to escape, however. He was discharged with a caution after evidence had

THE LAUNCH OF THE "TAKOMA-MARU."

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Since the issue a few days ago of the Imperial Edict ordering retrenchment in expenditure and dismissal of superfluous officials, only the governments of Chihli and Shantung provinces have attempted to carry out the order, while the other provincial governments are hesitating in the matter. The Grand Councillor has, therefore, urged them to take immediate action.

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WONG TIN, the puller of a private ricksha, was arraigned in the Police Court, this morning, charged with recklessly driving the vehicle and with offering a bribe to a policeman.

It was stated in evidence that Wong and another coolie were racing along Queen's Road West yesterday afternoon. A *lukong* failed to dodge them in time, the wheel of Wong's ricksha passing over his foot. When the *lukong* was being taken to the station he offered the policeman forty cents for his release. On the first charge accused was found not guilty. He was fined \$1; however, on the

STEALING one and a half pounds of copper, valued at fifty cents, the property of the Naval Yard, resulted in a coolie, Lin Ho, being sentenced to one month's imprisonment last Thursday.

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THE Prince Regent has sent by cable to the Viceroy and Governors of all the Viceroy and Governors, giving orders that in view of the present difficult times, they should not only do their best to carry out constitutional measures, but also attend to administrative measures, defence, anti-Christian troubles, foreign and financial affairs, and adding that any negligence will be severely dealt with.

IT is reported that China will shortly undertake the construction of harbour works at the ice-free port of Lienhsienwan under the superintendence of a British Engineer. A branch line connecting the port with the Imperial Railways of North China will also be constructed, for a distance of three miles. The activity of the bean market is disclosing the fact that the pier accommodation and facilities for export at Tairen are inadequate.

As the Government attaches great importance to the opium prohibition, it has issued circular orders to the Viceroy and Governors of the provinces to the effect that, in the event of any of them being able to eradicate poppy plantation and opium-smoking in their provinces without causing troubles, such Viceroy and Governors and officials engaged in the campaign will be given liberal rewards in order that others may be encouraged in the same direction.

SPEAKING at the general meeting of the Power-Gas Corporation, Mr. Alfred Mond, M.P., said that they had erected the first large gas-power plant in China at the Hongkong Dockyard. It was a 6,000 h.p. plant, which was working the yard by means of gas engines and electricity, and also supplying heat to the furnaces. In Japan they have erected a 3,000 h.p. plant for a paper mill, and they had also had the honour of receiving an order for a plant for one of the Japanese arsenals.

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